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The CRISIS

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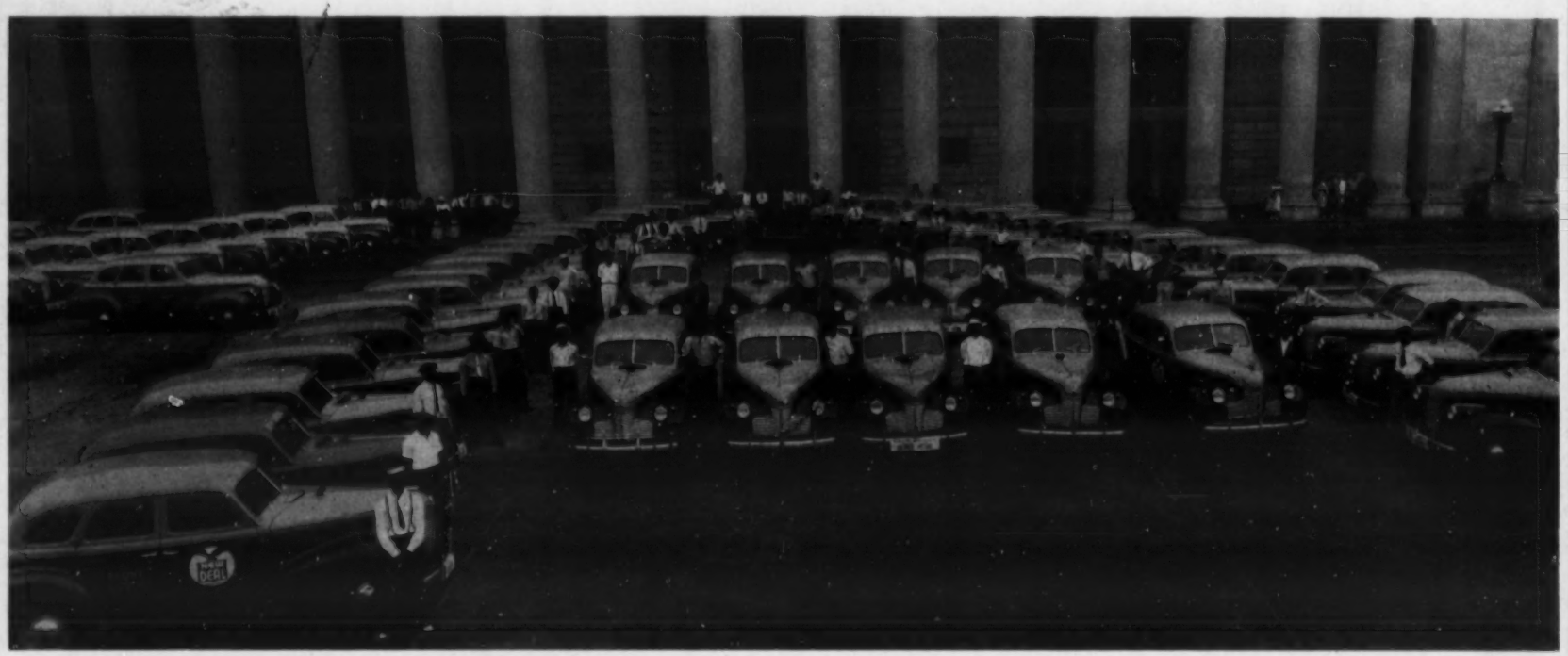

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College and School News

In cooperation with the U. S. Office of Education, **Hampton Institute** is training 300 civilian and enlisted men in engineering, science and management defense training.

New faculty appointments are Miss Thelma Rea Thurston (public relations), Univ. of Minn.; Wendell A. Robbins (industrial arts); Henry Wolf (music), and Hans Mahler (music).

Hampton has been selected as the only Negro college to be an official examining center for the 1942 national teacher examinations of the American Council on Education.

The Hampton kodachrome film "Education for Life" has been awarded honorable mention as one of the 10 best 16 mm. pictures of 1941, by the Amateur Cinema League.

On December 16, the Trustees of the **Morgan College** Corporation formally dedicated a $150,000 building known as the Morgan Christian Center where the religious activities of the college will be centered.

At **Howard University**, 250 students gave up Christmas vacations to train as air raid wardens, the first such move initiated by university students since U. S. entrance into World War II. Recently honored for having the highest scholastic honors during the term were 127 of Howard's students.

Recent Victor releases of recordings of piano music by American composers include **Adagio Cantabile** by Dr. R. Nathaniel Dett, head of the **Bennett College** music department. The piece is from his **Cinnamon Grove** suite.

Ten **Spelman College** students attended the Institute on Social and Religious affairs at Paine College on November 28-30.

President Buell G. Gallegher of Talladega College recently appealed to Americans to bear in mind that Chinese, Philippines, and numerous South Pacific native peoples are allies of the United States. "This is not an interracial war," he asserted.

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tinuing its mining extension work under the direction of U. S. Carter.

Second Lieutenant John D. Patton of the 24th Infantry, a recent graduate from the Officers Training School at Ft. Benning, Ga., has been assigned to duty with the ROTC at **Tuskegee Institute.**

The annual conference of the Jeanes teachers working in Alabama was held at Tuskegee Institute, November 10–11.

Ethel Pearl Shepherd, 15-year-old high school student from Prairie Farms, won Grand Prize at the Tuskegee fourth livestock show on December 9, with her Aberdeen Angus weighing 950 pounds. Swift and Company paid her $132.75.

Tuskegee's fourth class of flying cadets for the 99th Pursuit Squadron began work recently.

Dr. Mercer Cook, professor of French at **Atlanta University,** was recently awarded the first prize of $100 for submitting the best article to the Journal of Negro History for the year ending September 30. The award was presented at the annual meeting of the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History in Columbus, O. He won a $50 award last wear from the Journal for submitting the best book review of the year.

Mrs. Mary Tobias Dean has joined the faculty of the Laboratory School as instructor in arts and crafts. She is a graduate of New York and Columbia universities, has studied abroad and taught at Paine College, Bennett College and the New York WPA Art Center.

Mrs. Henrietta Roberts Stevenson (M. A.) Romance Languages, University of Michigan, and Mr. Ernest F. Stevenson, Chemistry, M. S. University of Indiana, of the faculty of **St. Philip's Junior College,** San Antonio, Texas, recently visited several Mexican colleges and a university in the states Tamaulipas, Nuevo Leon and Coahuila.

The Atlanta College of Mortuary Science, only Negro Grade "A" school under the Conference of Funeral Service Examining Boards of the U. S. Inc., has completed the first month of its fourth year of existence.

The name of **St. Paul's Normal and Industrial School,** Lawrenceville, Va., has been changed by Rev. Cyril E. Bentley, Director of the American Church Institute for Negroes, to St. Paul's Polytechnic Institute. Hereafter both its academic and trade courses will emphasize technical and industrial subjects. Courses will be on a college level and require four years' work.

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Gammon Theological Seminary observed its 58th anniversity on December 14. Bishop R. E. Jones, Senior Bishop of the Jurisdiction of the Methodist Church, delivered the principal address.

Miss Nancy Prime, senior at Stanton High School, Jacksonville. "Miss Stanton, 1940". Second choice in popular balloting for "Miss Jacksonville" with 763 votes.

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Volume 49, No. 1 *Whole No. 373*

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THE CRISIS *was founded in 1910. It is published monthly at 69 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y., by Crisis Publishing Company, Inc., and is the official organ of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. The subscription price is $1.50 a year or 15c a copy. Foreign subscriptions $1.75. The date of expiration of each subscription is printed on the wrapper. When the subscription is due a blue renewal blank is enclosed. The address of a subscriber may be changed as often as desired, but both the old and new address must be given and two weeks notice is necessary. Manuscripts and drawings relating to colored people are desired. They must be accompanied by return postage, and while* THE CRISIS *uses every care it assumes no responsibility for their safety in transit. Entered as second class matter November 2, 1910, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879, and additional second class entry at Albany, N. Y.*

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NEXT MONTH

The February number will consist principally of a pictorial review of Negro soldiers in America's new Army. It was not until January, 1941, that Negro draftees began their army training in any number, so that the February issue will review a full year of their training activities.

MISS JACKSONVILLE CONTEST

In the contest to select "Miss Jacksonville" to go on the cover of this special issue, several thousand ballots were distributed and several thousand more volunteer ballots were submitted. The winner is Miss Jolita Watson, who is employed by the Afro-American Life Insurance Company. Second place went to Miss Nancy Prime, and third place to Miss Mary Littlejohn, who is employed at the Walker Commercial and Vocational College.

OUR CONTRIBUTORS

Robert T. Thomas, a prominent fraternal, religious and political leader, is a former president of the Jacksonville branch of the NAACP. George W. Powell is a real estate and mortgage broker and president of the Negro Business League of Jacksonville.

The Reverend John E. Ford is the pastor of the Bethel Baptist Institutional church of Jacksonville. D. W. Perkins is a lawyer and a leading civic worker in Florida, state chairman of the WPA Advisory Educational Council and secretary of the State NYA Advisory Council.

N. W. Griffin is secretary of the State Teachers Association and is active in the fight for equalization of salaries. Samuel Harper is second vice-president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters in Jacksonville.

Mrs. Florida C. Dwight is in charge of recreation work in Jacksonville and has a long record of specialization and achievement in this field. Harold Martin is president of the Jacksonville youth council.

Dr. C. Frederick Duncan is medical director of Brewster Hospital.

S. S.
15
Vol. 49
No. 1

Editorials

Editor, ROY WILKINS
Advisory Board: Lewis Gannett, Arthur B. Spingarn, Sterling A. Brown, William Allen Neilson, Walter White, Carl Murphy, John Hammond

Now Is the Time Not to Be Silent

WITH our country at war for little more than a month, THE CRISIS would emphasize with all its strength that now is the time *not* to be silent about the breaches of democracy here in our own land. Now is the time to speak out, not in disloyalty, but in the truest patriotism, the patriotism with an eye—now that the die is cast—single to the peace which must be won.

Of course, between the declaration of war and the making of a just peace there lies the grim necessity of winning the conflict. To this task the Negro American quickly pledged his fullest support. Be it said once more that black Americans are loyal Americans; but let there be no mistake about that loyalty. It is loyalty to the democratic ideal as enunciated by America and by our British ally; it is not loyalty to many of the practices which have been—and are still—in vogue here and in the British empire.

The highest expressions of patriotism in these war years will come in the critical analysis of our objectives, in the refusal to ignore, now or later, those evils among us which are blood brothers of the evils against which we are warring. If this is truly a death struggle between the brutalities and indecencies of dictatorships, and the dignity and decency of democracies, we cannot wink; we dare not keep silent.

It must be that we declare the life blood of our fighters and the sweat of our workers to be a sacrifice for a new world which not only shall not contain a Hitler, but no Hitlerism. And to thirteen millions of American Negroes that means a fight for a world in which lynching, brutality, terror, humiliation, and degradation through segregation and discrimination, shall have no place—*either here or there.*

So we must speak, even as we fight and die. We must say that the fight against Hitlerism begins in Washington, D. C., the capital of our nation, where black Americans have a status only slightly above that of Jews in Berlin. We must say that if forced labor is wrong in Czechoslovakia, peonage farms are wrong in Georgia. If the ghettos in Poland are an evil, so are the ghettos in America. We must say that the enslavement of the bodies and spirits of men, of whatever color, or race, or residence, must be wiped out. We must say all the things that cry aloud to be said—not later, but now.

If all the people are called to gird and sacrifice for freedom, and the armies to march for freedom, then it must be for freedom for everyone, everywhere, not merely for those under the Hitler heel.

A lily-white navy cannot fight for a free world. A jim crow army cannot fight for a free world. Jim crow strategy, no matter on how grand a scale, cannot build a free world.

So we fight the Great Fight, not against Germany, Italy and Japan, but for the Great Peace. And we begin here, and now.

Lynching, 1941 Style

TO Texas, which has won many honors in the American crime of lynching, (including the staging of more mob killings than any other state) goes an additional citation for staging in 1941 two murders of defendants seated in open courtrooms with judge, jury, bailiffs and other court attendants as witnesses to the killings.

First, in June, it was at Conroe, Texas, that a husband shot and killed a Negro accused of attacking his wife. The accused was having a new trial, his previous convictions having been reversed by the highest *Texas* court, as well as by the United States supreme court. But while even white Texas judges might have had doubt, the husband had none. He reversed the United States supreme court with a pistol, was released on $500 bond, later "tried" and acquitted in a space of minutes, during which the county prosecutor joined the defense attorney in asking an acquittal.

Quick to learn, and not to be outdone by Conroe, the little town of Lufkin, Texas, staged its drama in November, when another outraged husband took matters out of the hands of the court by stabbing to death a Negro then on trial for attacking his wife. His small bail was raised instantly by a collection in the courtroom and he went on his way rejoicing in his new role of judge, jury, and executioner.

The obvious bears repeating: that no Negro in Texas would ever be acquitted by an all-white Texas court of a charge of raping a white woman if there were a scintilla of evidence against him. So that Conroe and Lufkin indicate that Texans, as late as 1941, do not want justice; they want lynching.

Jim Crow Air Raid Shelters?

HITLER has given the Atlantic coast cities the jitters, but not seriously enough to disturb the Jim Crow thinking of residents of the District of Columbia. White citizens of our nation's capital are talking already of separate training meetings for air raid wardens and separate bomb shelters for white and Negro Americans. That death rains from the air means little to white Americans. They want to be sure danger or death is completely Jim Crow. Perhaps our State Department will explain the matter to Hitler & Co. Wouldn't it be just like Hitler to make American whites choose "a fate worse than death"—running into a Negro bomb shelter?

White Mark

IN the rush of war news a significant item was reported from Macon, Ga. A jury (all white, of course) acquitted a Negro charged and tried on a charge of raping a white woman. Prior to the trial the accused man had been taken out of jail by a mob, tortured, and then returned to the law with the pronouncement of mob leaders that the "evidence" was not strong enough. The Negro must have been in New York at the time of the crime, with his whereabout known to some member of the mob. At any rate, a jury has now made his innocence official. A rare occurrence, indeed, for Georgia, and a white mark to place beside the many black ones.

Filipino Fliers

FIRST news of the war in the Pacific told of the exploits of American whites and Filipinos in the air corps. Captain Colin P. Kelly, Jr., received most of the publicity, but some was reserved for a Filipino captain in the air corps, who was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for bravery. We salute this young man, even though our hearts are a bit sour over the notation in the news story that he was trained at Randolph and Kelly fields in Texas. No American Negro boy, despite a background of centuries of loyalty to America, has yet been trained to fly at Randolph and Kelly fields.

At the left is Dr. A. L. Lewis, chairman of the board of directors and the only living founder. Middle photo shows the beautiful American Beach, an ideal summer resort, owned by the Afro-American Insurance Company employees. To the right is James H. Lewis, president

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Business in Jacksonville

By George W. Powell

JACKSONVILLE, dubbed the "Gateway to Florida", has also been, for three-quarters of a century, the gateway to business and commerce for Florida Negroes. This has been due, in part, to the fact that, with the exception of St. Augustine, Tallahassee, and Pensacola, Jacksonville is the oldest city of metropolitan proportions in Florida's phenomenal development. However, in gross population and volume of commerce, Jacksonville long ago outstripped those other pioneer settlements. Moreover, to the city's miraculous growth in trade and industry the Negro has contributed no small part.

Ever since emancipation, Negroes in Jacksonville have set the pace for other parts of the state in their courageous venturing into various types of business. The earliest experiments were largely confined to retail merchandising. Later on, more daring individuals lunged ahead, step after step, to organize and operate investment companies, insurance companies and banks. Indeed, an independent street railway company was organized, laid its own rails, purchased its own rolling stock and equipment, and ran cars on a regular cross-town schedule for several years. It was finally sold to the Jacksonville Traction Company and absorbed into that monopoly which under a long-standing franchise still exists, controlling the present motor bus system. Two soda-water bottling companies operated very successfully for a period, employing a large number of men and women, until the "depression" forced these concerns to sell out or discontinue business.

The "Depression" of 1929 hit Jacksonville and Florida harder than most other regions in the nation. For be it remembered that Florida was still staggering from the burst in 1926 of the Florida real estate boom, an inflation that reacted in untold failures and suffering when its aftermath set in. For lack of resources and financial reserve no racial group suffered more during the ten-year slump attendant on the nation-wide depression than did the Negroes. During this period numerous Negro businesses, like those of other races, were forced to close shop because of unemployment with the resulting loss of patronage and the failure to secure a financial brace-up from banking institutions.

This great upheaval did not permanently discourage the Negro business man and woman. Rising heroically from the ruins, they brushed off the ashes and debris of disaster and now, with bull-dog tenacity, as never before, they are lunging forward again. Jacksonville boasts of having one of the largest and financially strongest business institutions of the race, the Afro-American Life Insurance Company, one of the pioneer business ventures mentioned earlier in this review. This company has weathered various storms through a period of more than forty years. Elsewhere in Jacksonville there are Negro retail merchants who have been operating continuously for some thirty years.

A recent survey shows the following types of business concerns owned and operated by Negroes now serving Jacksonville and Duval county: Two bakeries, eight barbecue stands, sixteen barber shops, fifty-five amusement places, twenty-seven beauty parlors, twenty-four confectioneries and sundries, nine smoke shops, three tailoring establishments, one upholstery, one employment agency, four department stores, eight

The Florida Pharmacy, *1230–32 Florida Ave. W. J. Smith, Prop. Founded 1939, specializing in prescriptions. Free motor car delivery*

Weems Photo Studio, 512 W. Ashley St., Jacksonville, Fla. E. L. Weems, Prop.

hotels, three drug stores, two shoe stores, sixteen shoe-repairing and shoe-shine parlors, one book store, four sewing shops, one poultry-and-farm-produce store, fifteen building contractors, one radio shop, forty-nine cafes and restaurants, three printing establishments, seven real estate brokers and salesmen, one business college, one photograph studio, two newspapers, three school transportation busses, eight funeral homes, one fruit stand, one florist, three fish markets, eleven garages and service stations, thirty-five grocery stores, one hosiery store, two hat-cleaning establishments, twenty-seven wood-ice-and-coal dealers, one jewelry store, one music store, one unique establishment, the Florida Fresh Water Bar conducted by Charles Dorsey, furnishes fresh water for all ships entering and leaving Jacksonville's harbor. The survey indicates that the firms listed employ over 2000 people. One obvious comment is that the large number of concerns listed could supply employment for three times as much help if they could command just fifty per cent of the business transacted by members of their race in these various fields.

One type of development is worthy of note and encouragement. During the past decade several large chain grocery stores and markets owned and operated by members of other races have employed Negro salesmen and managers in stores located in sections thickly populated with colored patrons. In several instances such employees have later gone out and, with the business experience acquired, have established sales shops of their own.

Jacksonville is a fertile field in which young Negroes, men and women, may engage in numerous types of business. In the field of small factories there are more than 300 concerns operated by members of other races; only two Negroes are in the manufacturing business —one a coffin and casket factory, the other a stone and concrete image yard. Either of these concerns could give jobs to hundreds of colored men and women if the Negro undertakers would buy caskets and coffins from their race establishment only, and the Negro contractors and builders would buy a reasonably large proportion of their supplies from the concrete and stone image maker.

The problem of securing large race patronage for enterprises within the group is as serious in Jacksonville as elsewhere. The city's population is about sixty per cent white and forty per cent colored. White owners operate sixty-nine drug stores; Negroes operate three. Notwithstanding the low spending ability of the race, its support should easily sustain at least a half-dozen up-to-date pharmacies. The drug store is just one of the many types of business conducted by Negroes which depend for support on a pitiful fraction of the entire volume of trade supplied by the masses of the race. The grocer, the clothier and shoe dealer are others. Inquiry indicates that too many Negroes seek the services of white physicians and dentists when entirely satisfactory service is available among members of their own racial group. A thorough study of this aspect is being made by the Negro Business League. A speakers' bureau has been formed to visit churches and various other assemblies throughout the city whenever expedient, and urge corrective measures to this unsatisfactory condition by more enthusiastic cooperation with business enterprises within the race.

Another aspect of the race's practices in spending offers a challenge to serious thinking. Some of the more thoughtful believe that the interest in the amusement business is out of all proportion to the comparatively small volume of business in some other staple lines. They believe with the late Dr. Booker T. Washington that "It is far more important to have an opportunity to earn a dollar than to have the privilege to spend one." Herein is a challenge to members of our group who contemplate entering some branch of business for profit: Will the type of business establishment under

(*Continued on page* 31)

"From Saving Comes Having"
"From Steady Work Comes Security"

Old proverbs sound trite at times to our ears. But they have lived because in that particular word combination lies still an older truth. And no truth could be older than "FROM SAVING COMES HAVING" or "FROM STEADY WORK COMES SECURITY WHEN WORK DAYS ARE DONE".

THE AFRO-AMERICAN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY'S PENSION BUREAU is designed to care for the employees of the company when their work days are done. It is security to those who cannot earn their keep any more. It is a comfort in old age, in sickness and in periods of distress and misfortune.

Every dime put into the PENSION BUREAU goes back to the depositor when retirement time rolls around. THE BUREAU assures a secure financial future for employees of the company.

THE PENSION DEPARTMENT is a storehouse for food, clothing, shelter, and other comforts of life during the TWILIGHT YEARS OF LIFE.

THE AFRO-AMERICAN PENSION BUREAU

105 East Union Street — Jacksonville, Florida

A. L. LEWIS, *President* • L. D. ERVIN, *Secretary*

Negro Labor in Jacksonville

By Samuel Harper

JACKSONVILLE grew from a cowford to a beautiful city and with its geographical location, brought to this city large industries such as the shipyard, railroad, pulp mill and many others, too numerous to mention.

Negro labor has been a great factor in the development of this great city. There was great demand for unskilled labor, which was in abundance. They cleared the timber, layed drainage and built roads. During this early period, they worked long and tedious hours on salaries ranging from seventy-five cents to one dollar per day with large families to support.

Large groups of unskilled laborers are to be found in Jacksonville today. Some have organized and are receiving better pay and shorter hours. There are other groups, who are only receiving better pay and slight changes in the hours.

Jacksonville, located on the beautiful St. Johns river, made it a great port for transportation. On the dock Negro labor was used as deck hands, but in order to speed up the service it was used in all capacities on the ship, so there would be no delay in delivering material to this fast growing metropolis.

These workers labored long hours with small pay. Neither health nor safety were regarded on the water front. This condition existed from the early days until March, 1936. Ike Grayson encouraged fifty men to meet, and they conveyed the idea to others that longshoremen should be organized in Jacksonville. They placed their agreement before the management. In June, 1936 their contract was signed with a minimum pay of fifty-five cents per hour, maximum pay of eighty cents per hour, time and one-half for all work after 5 p.m. and on Sundays and holidays. Today their office is located in their own building with a membership of 812. They also own and operate the longshoremen grocery store.

It is very interesting to make a tour of the city of Jacksonville and note some of the large structures built by Negro bricklayers, who played a great part in beautifying the city.

Back in 1886 Negro bricklayers labored hard and worked ten hours per day at the rate of twenty-five cents per hour. They were very skillful in this trade. Sylvanus Hart rose from the scaffold to a foreman in 1902, retired from his trade and became Jacksonville's first Negro banker and later retired with honors.

Negro masonry was in demand and in 1902 the Negro bricklayers' local No. 2 received its charter and is the oldest organized labor union in this city. Under the presidency of Henry Stewart, Jacksonville has a strong bricklayers organization which is an asset to labor and the city at large.

The hod carriers, being closely allied to the bricklayers and laboring under the same condition, watched the movements of the bricklayers and their success. They realized that if they attempted to improve their condition they

(*Continued on page* 13)

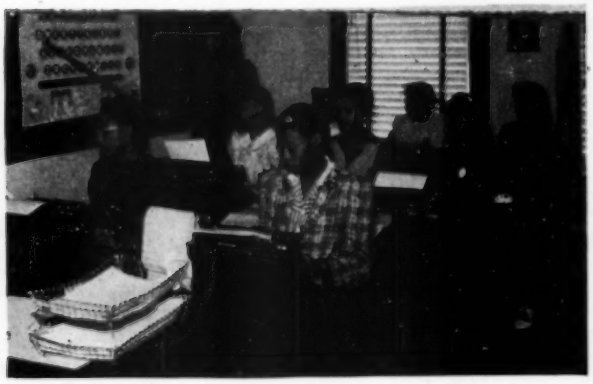
Skinner, Florist, 416 Broad St., Jacksonville, Fla. Mrs. Alex Skinner (insert)

The Richmond Hotel, outstanding hotel for colored people in Jacksonville, is located at 422 Broad Street, close to all principal Negro businesses, theaters, and churches, and less than five minutes drive from the railroad terminal. Most of its 48 rooms have running water, with many bathrooms adjacent. The Richmond Hotel boasts a quiet, homelike atmosphere. A Tea Room is operated for the convenience of guests. Mrs. Alice Kirkpatrick is the proprietor

Pres. Julia S. Brown interviewing a student in the business office

Practical secretarial training. From left to right: Orey Chrispen; Mrs. T. E. Griffin, B.S., Registrar, and Willard Marshall, secretary

Class in Civil Service taught by Attorney McGriff



Class in typing, taught by Mrs. T. E. Griffin, B.S.

Night Class in Business English taught by Miss Mildred Kinney, B.S. Below: Mrs. J. S. Brown's Shorthand class

Eighth Grade Class, Grammar school department, taught by Miss Louise Howard

Walker's Commercial & Vocational College

Mrs. JULIA WALKER-BROWN, President

Founded 1916 • DIPLOMAS AWARDED
GRADUATES ASSISTED

Training and Furnishing Expert Typists, Bookkeepers, Clerks and Secretaries

319 BROAD STREET JACKSONVILLE, FLA.

Telephone 5-8497-R

Negro Labor

(*Continued from page* 11)

would have the support of their brothers. They started the movement in January, 1937, and were successful in getting 60% at the first meeting and they drew up the agreement, which was presented to all contractors. After careful study by the contractors the agreement was signed in May, 1937. The hod carriers organization under H. A. Henly, the president, has a very large membership.

The railroads employ large groups of Negro laborers as express workers. They were called upon to meet all trains at various hours to discharge express. No consideration was given to the hours made, so these group of men struggled year in and out waiting for an opportunity to remedy these conditions. As the city grew and changes came about these men began seeking better working conditions. In January, 1936, C. S. Williams, one of the workers and the first president, knew that the time had come that laborers should receive better working conditions and an increase in pay, so he held meetings every week with the workers until a large number gathered to hear his plea. In June, 1937, an agreement was signed, with better pay and shorter hours. The organization now boasts of a membership of around three hundred. A. Harris is the present president.

Negro carpenters, skilled at their trade, worked long hours with small wages, moulding huge timber into small building material. Negro carpenters were instructed to read blueprinting. They began to seek better working conditions and an increase in pay. In 1904 their charter was granted. They have made great progress under C. O. Barnes, their president and today there are more than four hundred organized carpenters receiving shorter hours and better pay. This group of laborers is still leading in the field of labor.

The greatest struggle that occurred among labor in Jacksonville for recognition was among the Pullman porters. When Wagner first began the sleeping car service, the Negro was employed as a porter. Later George M. Pullman bought over the Wagner Sleeping Cars, which became the Pullman Company. Pullman was so pleased with the service rendered by the Negro that he stipulated in his will that as long as the sleeping car remains with the name of Pullman on it the Negro should be there. The working conditions were not changed. The long hours and small pay remained the same. The porter labored for many years under these conditions.

In August, 1925, the task fell upon that noble, courageous and patient leader, A. Philip Randolph to organize the Pullman porters. He depended on the porters in Jacksonville, his home town, to support the cause. The porters were fought from within and out their own ranks. A great sacrifice was made by J. W. Darby, who lost his job for the cause of the organization. Fear came over the small group of members and only one remained, Toney Thompson. After this blew over a large number returned and the fight continued. The struggle continued for twelve long years. It grew dark at times, but with the great leader, A. Philip Randolph, who saw nothing but victory, the porters fought on, until August 25, 1937, at which time an agreement was signed between the Pullman Company and the

(*Continued on page* 18)

Broad Street Cleaners, Mrs. Mabel L. McLendon, Owner-Manager, 417 Broad Street, Jacksonville. Telephone 3-9503. Dry cleaning and dyeing. Delivery service

Broadnax Service Station, 816 W. State St., Jacksonville, Fla. J. A. Broadnax, owner. Employs 7 persons. Open always. Founded 1929. Mr. Broadnax is a Howard university graduate

Cut Rate **Free Delivery**

HARLEM PHARMACY

Jacksonville's Leading Negro Drug Store

T. M. CHRISTOPHER, *Pharmacist*

PRESCRIPTION SPECIALISTS

Agents For Apex and Nu-Nile Preparations

WE DELIVER ANYWHERE

Phone 5-3697 **4th & Davis Sts.**

The James Craddock Enterprises

JAMES (Charlie Edd) CRADDOCK

KNOWN widely and affectionately as Charles Edd wherever business men and sportsmen gather, James Craddock of Jacksonville, has operated a variety of enterprises since coming to the city in 1921. He opened the Little Blue Chip at 426 Broad Street in that year. Later he moved to the New Blue Chip which was one of the finest enterprises of its kind in the South, providing the best in entertainment. With the coming of the depression, this business was relinquished (1931), but as early as 1929, Mr. Craddock established a breadline and supported it until the needy were provided for by the federal government. He still continued to operate the Blue Chip Hotel at 518 Broad Street and a billiard parlor and cabaret at 520.

In 1935 he opened the Charlie Edd Hotel at 635½ West Ashley Street. In addition he operated the Young Men's Smoke Shop at 631 and Uncle Charlie Edd's Barber Shop at 633.

On Christmas Day, 1940, Mr. Craddock opened the now famous Two Spot at Montcrief Road and 45th Street, the finest dance palace in the country owned by a Negro, and the mecca of all in the vicinity seeking entertainment and relaxation. The hardwood floor has a capacity of 2,000 dancers. A thousand persons may be seated on the main floor and mezzanine floor which runs around three sides of the vast hall. In the rear are several dining rooms for private parties. In addition there are six tourist rooms equipped with every modern convenience. The Two Spot is air conditioned throughout. Its cafeteria serves the finest foods and its bar the finest liquors obtainable. For the entertainment of the thousands of patrons, the best bands and performers are secured.

Mr. Craddock's pet project is his recently opened store and loan office, the most unique Negro business in the country. Not only is it a pawn brokerage but it is a general haberdashery, clothing, jewelry, luggage, musical instrument and shoe store with brand new, reasonably priced stock. Charlie Edd saw no reason why the lucrative loan and merchandise business should be exclusively in the hands of white people.

In addition to a half interest in Manuel's Tap Room, the finest of its kind in the South, located at 622-24-26 West Ashley Street, Mr. Craddock has large real estate interests, owning a number of tenant houses. His various enterprises require the use of seven automobiles, aside from his two private cars, and he employs 500 people.

Mr. Craddock is an Elk and a 33°

(*Continued on page* 31)

Show window of store and loan office at night

Interior of store and loan office at 629 West Ashley Street

The famous Two-Spot where all Jacksonville comes for evenings of orderly fun and high class entertainment. A James Craddock enterprise. Montcreif and 45th Street

The mirror-like Two-Spot dance floor accommodating 2000 persons. Another 1000 can be seated on the main floor and mezzanine. The world's best bands and performers entertain here

The immaculate service bar and cafeteria where the finest foods and beverages are nightly dispensed by 30 courteous and efficient employees

Nickerson's School of Beauty Culture

Above, Mrs. Sophia Nickerson Starks, owner and president, seated in the senior class room. Below, scene in the junior class room and dispensary. Left to right: Mrs. Starks, an operator, and Mr. Starks. Located at 1503 North Myrtle Avenue, Jacksonville, Fla., this is the first licensed beauty culture school in the State of Florida. Founded in 1924, this school has trained over 400 women who are now graduates. The present class of sixteen (16) will soon join them. Mrs. Starks' salon is modernly equipped and the most famous in the State. Operating both day and night classes, 1000 hours is the required time for each student. The school operates a placement Bureau and advisory department. Post graduate courses are given

Education

By N. W. Griffin

JACKSONVILLE, often called the gateway to Florida, is situated in Duval county and has the largest Negro population of any city in the state.

There are several private schools located in the city. They have contributed largely to its educational needs. Among them are the following: Boylan Haven, a junior senior high school for girls operated by the Methodist Episcopal church; an elementary school operated by the Seventh Day Adventists, and another elementary school operated by the Catholic church. Edward Waters college is a junior college operated by the A. M. E. church. There are two business schools, the Walker's Business college and the New Century Training school.

The general references of this article deal only with the public school system. It may be well to mention here that the entire public school system in Florida is operated in county units, unlike many states in which the city schools are operated separately from those of the rural areas outside the city. Therefore all reports given by the state department of education carry figures of the entire county rather than the city of Jacksonville. However, more than ninety per cent of the Negro children of the county are in the schools of the city.

There are 42 school centers for Negroes in the entire county—four junior high and one senior high as given by the report of the state superintendent's report for 1940.

There were more than eleven thousand Negro pupils in the public schools of the county. A little more than ten thousand of these are in the schools of Jacksonville.

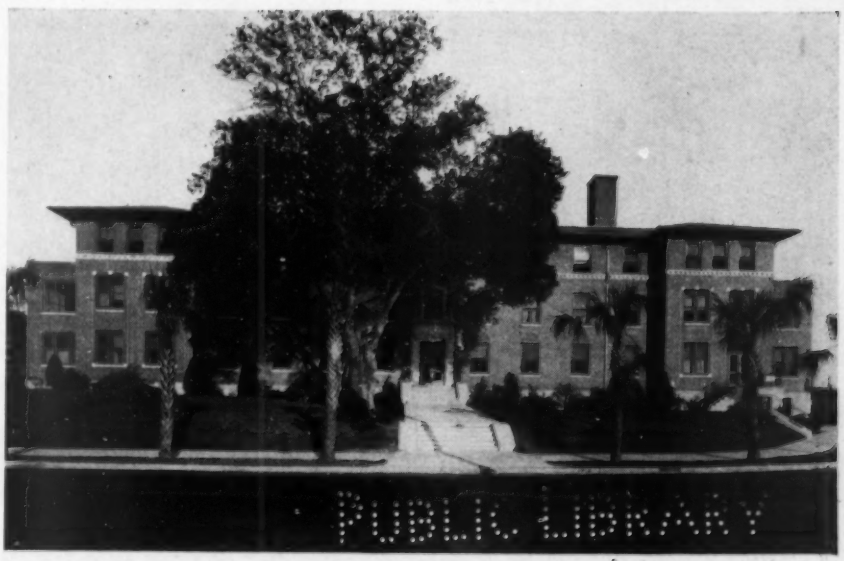
Generally the schools are operated for a period of nine months a year. There is a state law making school attendance compulsory between certain age limits; however, due largely to the fact that there are no attendance officials to keep check upon and enforce this law, literally hundreds of Negro children within the school age limits remain out of school. Yet, for those who do attend, there is by no means adequate classroom space.

For approximately twenty-five thousand white pupils there are one thousand, one-hundred-nineteen classrooms. Whereas for more than eleven thousand Negro pupils there are only 272 classrooms. For white pupils there is on the average one classroom for each twenty-two pupils, whereas for Negroes the average is one classroom for each forty pupils. There is little wonder, then, that practically every school operates on what is called a double session shift. One group of children goes into classes around seven o'clock in the morning and is dismissed about twelve to make space for another group which comes in at that time and remains until after four. Thus children, because of the overcrowded school system, are forced to remain out of school almost one-half day each day. This practice is felt to be one of the chief factors contributing to juvenile delinquency. There is a need for more than 225 classrooms to meet present needs.

The senior high school, Stanton, named in memory of the Secretary of War of President Lincoln's cabinet, is a well constructed building erected more than twenty years ago; however, it is by no means adequate to meet the needs of the city's present high school population. Its location is in a place crowded in from every side, thereby allowing no space for outside activity on the part of the student body. Provision for vocational courses for high school students is very limited indeed. This constitutes one of the greatest deficiencies so far as the high school students are concerned.

Three of the junior high schools have fairly up-to-date buildings, but, they were constructed for elementary school use and were later converted into use as junior high schools. Only one is well

Stanton High School, Prof. F. W. Anderson, Principal



The Brewster Hospital, Jacksonville, Fla.

situated as to outdoor space for needs of pupils. Only one has an auditorium which can be used as an assembly room for students.

The elementary schools are perhaps the ones that are farthest away from meeting the needs of the population. Three of the eight elementary school buildings are fairly well constructed school buildings. The others should have long ago been displaced for more modern buildings. The overcrowded situation of the entire system is more acute for the elementary school section than any other.

The teachers of the public schools are slightly above the average for the state as a whole in the matter of academic training. There are no Negro teachers in the system with less than two years of training in a standard college, and even these with this minimum of two years college training realize that they must in the next few years complete the four year college course in order to retain their present places in the system. At present no new teachers are employed who have not completed four years of college training or its equivalent. There is a very well organized county teachers organization which has fallen in line with many other such organizations throughout the country in bringing suit against the county school board to compel it to equalize their salaries with those paid white teachers with similar training and doing essentially the same work. Said suit is now awaiting a hearing in the federal courts.

Negro Labor

(*Continued from page* 13)

Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters.

The Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters has made wonderful progress in Jacksonville with S. L. Bennett as president. They are very active in helping to promote all civic organizations.

The boiler workers under the leadership of R. W. Jackson, the red caps under C. L. Williams and the cab drivers headed by G. B. Washington are making large contribution to Negro labor in Jacksonville.

All of the above mentioned organizations are members of the American Federation of Labor. Also members of the City Central Labor Union. These organizations are a great asset to Negro business.

Jacksonville with its united skilled Negro laborers stands ready to meet any emergency to promote the defense program, and to maintain the high standard that Negro labor has built.

The Lawton L. Pratt Funeral Homes, Inc., 525–527 West Beaver St., Jacksonville, the State's oldest funeral establishment. Established in 1900 under meager circumstances, it has grown in facilities and service to measure with any business of its kind in the South. By its courteous, polite, prompt and painstaking service, it has won the title of "The Obliging Undertaker." This building houses and promotes worthwhile civic programs. Its slogan is "The Funeral Home of the Community." A branch is located at 234 South Clara Avenue, Deland, Fla.

Arnolta Johnson (Mrs. J. E.) Williams, A.B., Benedict College, Zeta Phi Beta sorority, treasurer of the Christmas Charity club, and Jacksonville representative of the Associated Negro Press

Reed's Tailor Shop, 519 Broad Street, Jacksonville. Founded in 1919 by its proprietor Mrs. Anna Reed, who has made a specialty of men's tailored-to-order garments, and employs a staff of seven expert cutters and fitters. The firm also makes ladies' clothes

Interracial Relations

By Robert T. Thomas

"Behold how good and pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity." Ps. 133-1.

IN May, 1926, the writer came to Jacksonville from Pensacola, where race relations were of the best, to assume the position of secretary of the Endowment Bureau of Florida Odd Fellows. In coming to this city, we found racial relations strained, due to some recent violence between the races. The feeling among colored people was anything but mild and pleasant, and yet they trod on.

With the coming of the depression, unemployment increased among both groups, so did feelings of antagonism. A certain white radical editor of a weekly newspaper agitated the firing of Negroes and the hiring of white. This added fuel to the flames and the situation became critical. Thanks to Divine Providence, the editor and paper were of short duration; the editor met with violent death, the paper folded up and the agitation ceased.

The rigor of the depression resulting in want and suffering and misery in common, tended to soften the prejudice and to change the attitude of the majority race so that with the coming of the New Deal, with its many relief agencies, things began to brighten and assume a more peaceful outlook. The C.W.A. conducted an economic survey and census of Jacksonville and vicinity, employing 300 men, equally divided among each race group. The men met twice a day, at the same time and place, for a period of eight or more months without the least friction but with the most friendly relations.

In the Negro federal writers project, the writers were in daily contact with many members of the other race, with the exhibition of a friendly feeling and a desire to assist each other in gathering information.

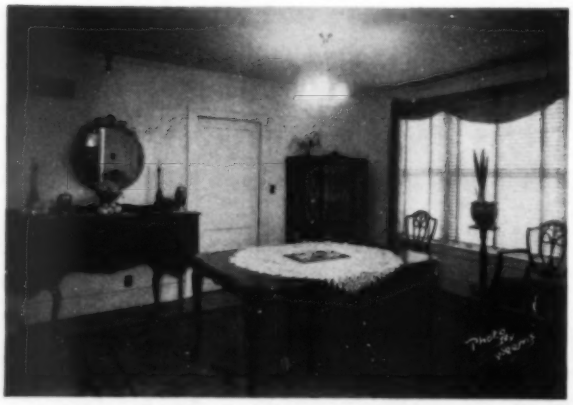
Gains having been made in better race relations, many individuals and organizations set about to cement the same and work for a better understanding. Omitting names of individuals, for there were influential ones of each race, we mention organizations: The Jacksonville Negro Welfare League, an organization composed of citizens, with a board of directors representing men in all walks of life. This organization serves as a clearance house of race relations, and through a paid executive secretary, is ever on the alert to avert racial conflicts and misunderstandings. Clara White Mission: this organization, because of its community activities and splendid work for humanity, has gained for its leaders, and especially the president, great influence and power among city and county officials and white people in general, thus being an important factor in helping to keep the races at peace. Ministerial Alliance: the ministerial alliance of both groups working together in fellowship, preaching and practicing good will, has proved to be a potent factor of good will. Recently the two groups met in joint session, and

(*Continued on page 27*)

Residence of Mr. and Mrs. Lawton L. Pratt, 582 West 8th Street, Jacksonville, Fla.

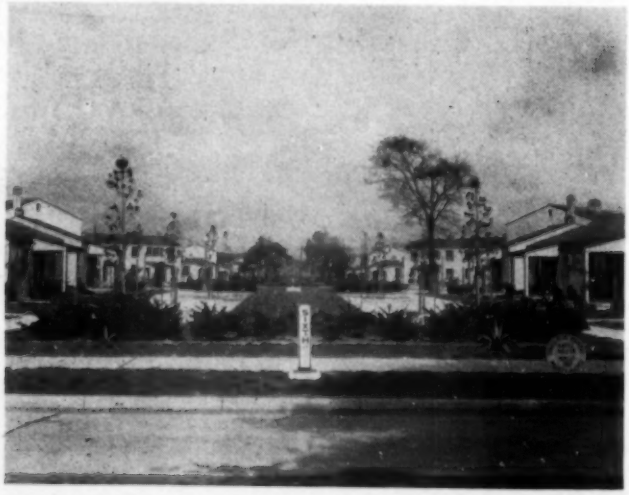
Residence of Dr. and Mrs. William L. Redmond, 2028 Davis Street, Jacksonville, Fla. Honor student, Meharry 1926; Kappa Alpha Psi; treasurer Ebenezer M.E. Church for 17 years; Business League executive. Mrs. Redmond is a religious, social and civic worker.

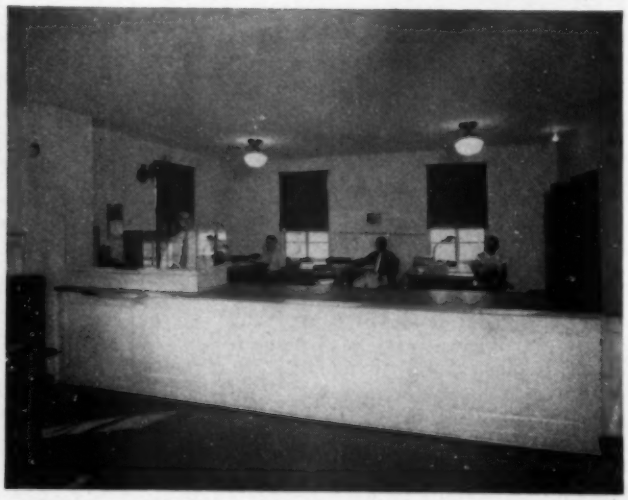
An Interesting Interior



Interior views of the residence of Dr. and Mrs. Robert W. Butler, 1541 Jefferson St., Jacksonville, Fla. Dr. Butler is a local druggist; Mrs. Butler is a prominent teacher and club woman

Durkeeville Housing Project





Top, left: looking east on Steele Court at Circle; right, looking north on Everson Court from 6th Street. Bottom, left, looking south on Wilcox Court from Bldg. A-11; right, office of the project and its efficient staff. The housing manager, John A. Simms, is seated at left

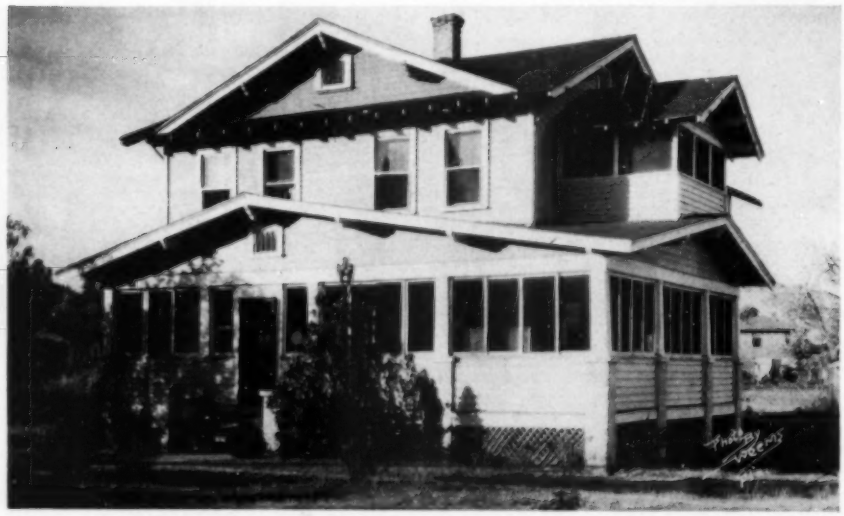
Scenes in Exclusive Residential Sections of Jacksonville, Fla.

Edward Waters College

Jacksonville, Fla.

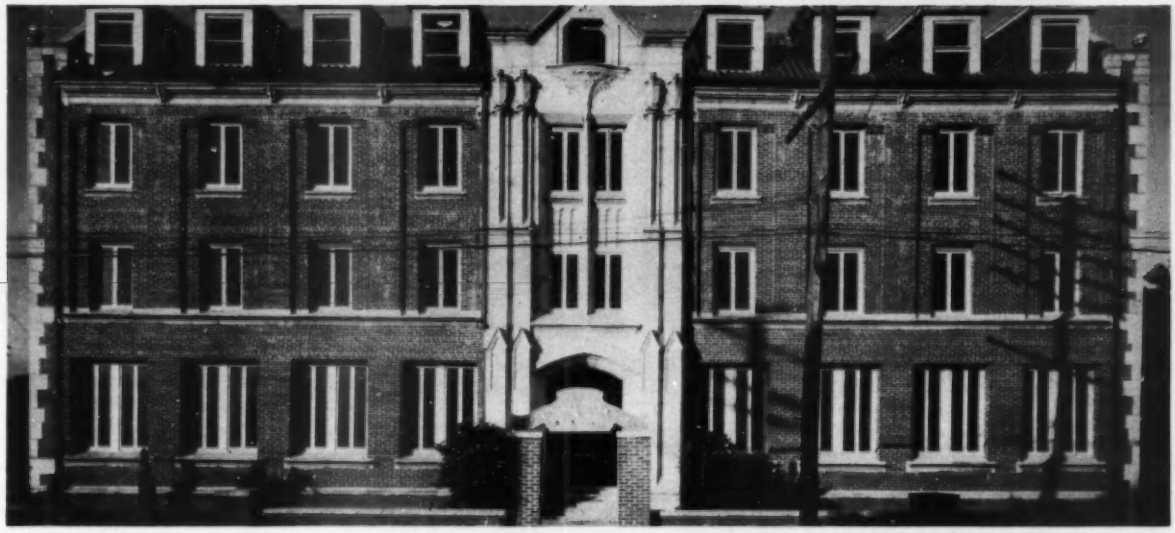
BISHOP HENRY YOUNG TOOKES

Prelate of Florida, Chancellor of Edward Waters college, President of the Board of Church Extension, and Episcopal Father of the Great A.M.E. church in the state of Florida, Bishop H. Y. Tookes is a man of vision who has mastered the gigantic task of bringing Edward Waters college out of the depth of financial depression. Edward Waters, pride of the African Methodist Episcopal church of Florida, is a 4-year college, with the noted educator, Dr. D. Howard Gregg, S.B., A.M., Ph.D., as its president. The plant is valued at more than $500,000



Residence of President and Mrs. D. Howard Gregg on campus of Edward Waters College

Residence of Bishop Henry Young Tookes, 1011 West 8th St., Jacksonville



Top: New Girls' Dormitory, with modernly equipped dining hall; center: Lee Theological Seminary, containing library, class rooms and large auditorium; bottom: Centennial Building, containing Bishop's office, Cafeteria, class rooms and printing office

Jacksonville's First Citizen

A. L. LEWIS was born in Madison County, Florida, in 1865, of Christian parents. He moved to Jacksonville, Florida, in 1876, and received his formal education in the public schools of Duval County, Florida.

Being thrifty and industrious, he was given a job at a factory where he worked for twenty-odd years and was chief operator when he left.

His next venture was to establish a shoe store and he has the distinction of having been the first colored person in Jacksonville to own and operate a shoe store. He did a very thriving business for a number of years.

In 1901, he founded the Afro-American Life Insurance Company, the first old line legal reserve insurance company established in the South for colored people.

In 1903, he organized the Afro-American Pension Bureau to give old age pension and assistance to the agents of the organization.

He was one of the men to assist Booker T. Washington establish the National Negro Business League in 1904, and served as its Treasurer for a number of years. He now holds the honorary position of Treasurer Emeritus of the League.

He has the singular honor of having served as Treasurer of the $15,000 allotted by the Rockefeller Foundation for research on Negroes in the South.

For two years he served as President of the National Negro Insurance Association.

He is chairman of the National Welfare Board of the city of Jacksonville.

He is honored with the position of member of the Finance Committee of both Bethune-Cookman College in Daytona Beach, and Edward Waters College in Jacksonville.

He organized what is known as the Fifty-Fifty Bottling Company, the first Company of this kind owned and controlled by Negroes which furnished all bottled drinks of soda water, retail and wholesale, with three branches in the State of Florida.

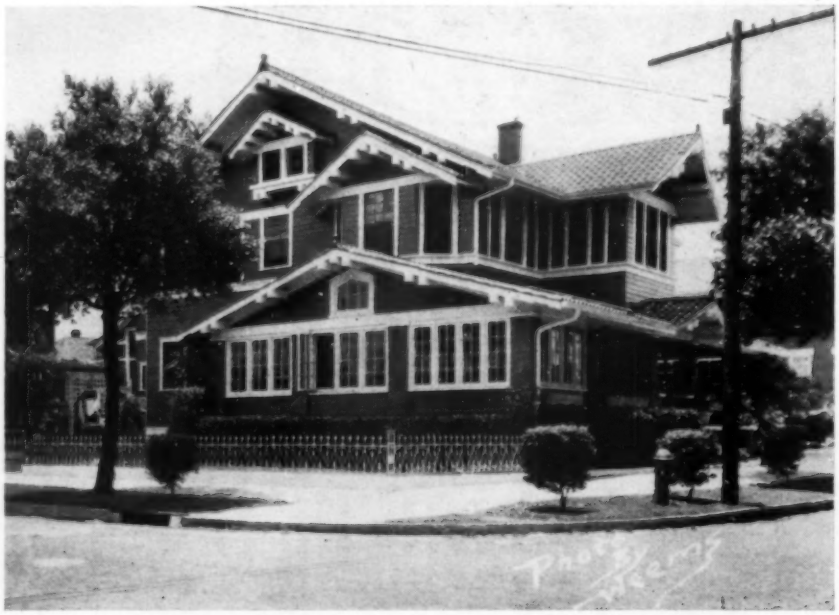
He is a member of the Episcopal Committee of the A. M. E. General Conference, as well as a member of the Finance Department of the A. M. E. General Conference.

Because of these and many other accomplishments, in 1936, he was given the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws by Wilberforce University, in Xenia, Ohio.

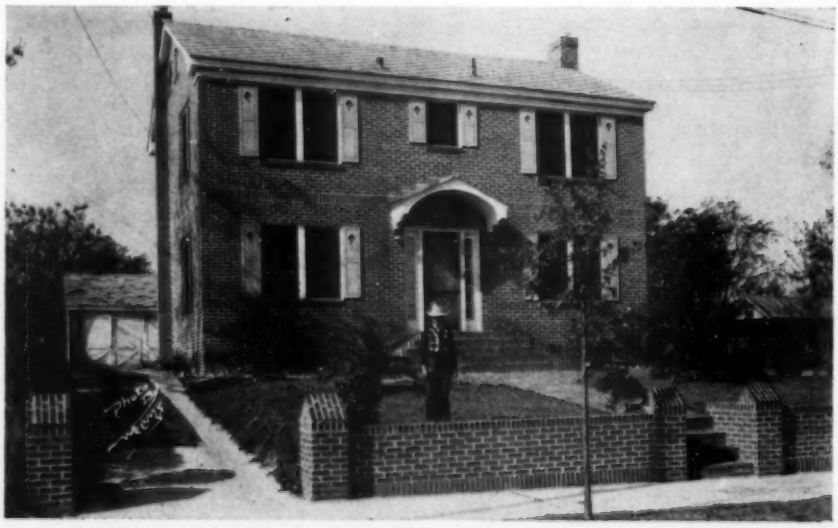
Mr. Lewis has travelled extensively—from Maine to California in the United States, and in 1937, he went to Haiti on a special mission in the interest of the United States government. He spent three months in Europe, finally crossing the Mediterranean and visiting Samaria, Judea, and Galilee. He went down to Egypt and the coast of Africa.

He is still active in his church work, having served as superintendent of one Sunday School for fifty-seven years.

As a philanthropist, he has given large sums of money to public and private schools of the country for the education of colored youths.



Residence of Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Lewis, 504 West 8th Street, Jacksonville, Fla.



Residence of Mr. and Mrs. Gabunion G. Littlejohn, 1424 N. Jefferson Street, Jacksonville, Fla. Mr. Littlejohn has been a carrier in the U. S. postal service for 20 years, is a staunch Catholic, clubman and Boy Scout leader. Mrs. Littlejohn was the first nurse to be given a T.B. Fellowship at the Univ. of Michigan, president of the Criterion Matron's Club, a civic and religious leader. The Littlejohn's only son, Francis, is seen standing in front of their home

Religious Life in Jacksonville

By John E. Ford, D.D.

THE religious life among our group in Jacksonville has kept pace with the professional, educational and business progress. A consistent Christian life always finds favor with God and man. A group that endeavors to live a seven day week "Sermon on the Mount" is certain to prosper and win confidence and friends. Jacksonville has its full quota of denominations and faiths and is increasing every day because of influx of military and naval air base personnel and people seeking pleasure or employment. The city's environment and growth have been marvelous in the last decade. Our group has all kinds and shades of religion, a religious cloak or garment to fit everybody's taste and design. If a new religion was born in India yesterday, it will be in Jacksonville tomorrow. Our city has a wide variety and full assortment of worshipers, among them, all kinds of Baptists, all descriptions of Methodists, all classes of Holiness, various Sanctified as well as Independent and Community Church besides Presbyterian, Congregational, Unity, Lutheran, Spiritualist, Episcopal, Catholic, Adventist, Moslem, various missions and YWCA.

We are proud of our fellow churchmen who are trying to live the life and example of faith in the midst of much sin, degradation and deprivation. Many of these congregations are outstanding and have splendid church buildings, and parsonages which compare favorably with the best in any community, whether large or small, and are aggressive in Christian service. It is these spiritual values that give the race the courage and strength to press on. We have a progressive ministry with fairly paid salaries, also denominational and interdenominational organizations and occasional inter-racial conferences, Bible institutes and summer religious assemblies, but with all of these splendid opportunities one sees often much carelessness, indifference and lack of zest for spiritual things, among young as well as old, also for the finer and better things of life.

Jacksonville has a fine group of young people, both in the churches, Sunday schools and young people's societies which are rendering valuable services in many ways, among the grownups as well as the juveniles. They are organizing and taking part in youth movements, forums, lyceums, debates and panel discussions, also in mission work of various kinds. Their ministry is to the sick, blind, cripple and tuberculosis and youth movements: Junior and NAACP. In this way an opportunity is afforded for induction of young people into social and civic work of various kinds which affords a larger view of contemporary and community work.

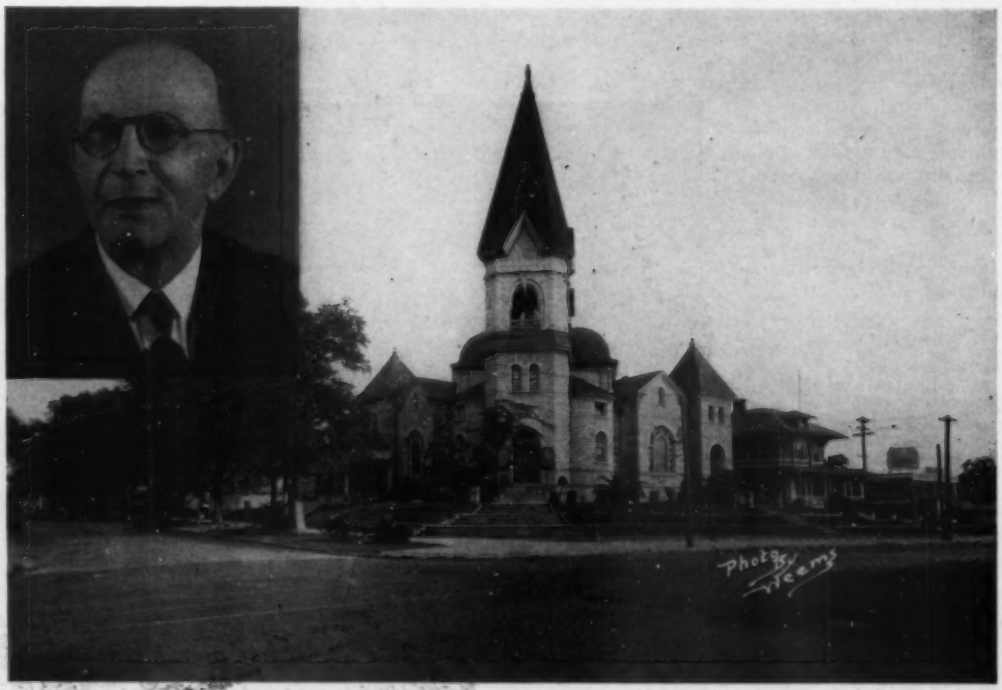
Among the institutions named above are the Clara White Mission, the Institute for the Blind, Delinquent Girls' Home, Boys' Detention Home. All of these give an opportunity to study the conditions that are going on among us and to use their talent for service as well as pleasure. Jacksonville churches may not be streamlined with a gear shift at the steering wheel, but faithful Christian work goes forward steadily on the wings of faith and prayer. Still Jacksonville like other cities is afflicted with a class of "Gad-abouts" from church to church, "religious samplers," "belongers and pew warmers;" people who go about from church to church without tying up with any definite work whatever. We trust that there will come a better day for all concerned.

The Lincoln Golf and Country Club, Jacksonville, Fla.

The Criterion Matrons Club, Jacksonville. Front row, left to right, Mrs. Elinor B. Littlejohn, president; Mrs. R. J. Rutledge; Mrs. Olga Bradham; Mrs. Blanche Coleman, treasurer. Standing: Mrs. Margaret Simms, journalist; Mrs. Mary L. Betsche, chairman of the program committee, and Mrs. Lenora Lawson, official hostess. The other eight members do not appear

Mrs. Claire Bertha Williams, teacher in the public school system of Duval County, Fla., was recently sent by the local chapter of the American Red Cross to the National Aquatic School for Negroes in Nashville, Tenn., to take the instructor's course in first aid and accident prevention. She is the first colored Jaxon to be so honored by the Jacksonville chapter. Since receiving her certificate, she has conducted several classes at the YWCA. She is a civic, religious and girl scout leader

The A. L. Lewis Branch of the Young Women's Christian Association, Jacksonville, Fla., named for Florida's first citizen, Mr. A. L. Lewis, oldest living founder and Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Afro-American Life Insurance Co. Insert shows Mrs. Florence Jones Dixon, the executive secretary. Daughter of the late B. J. Jones of Lake City and graduate of Edward Waters College and Howard University with B.S. degree, Mrs. Dixon has studied at the YWCA general headquarters in New York, has taught vocational guidance at Edward Waters College and has been child care expert with the WPA



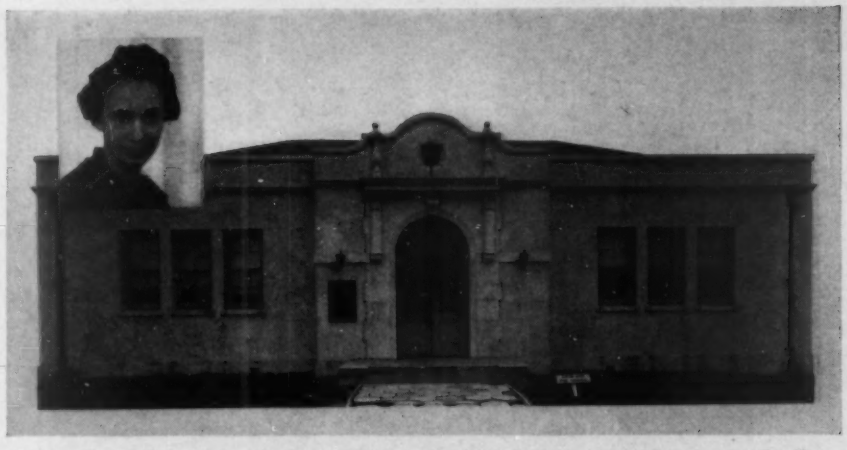
Bethel Baptist Institutional Church, 1200 Hogan Street, Jacksonville, is the oldest Negro church in the city. Its pastor, the Rev. John E. Ford, trained at Fisk university, Beloit college and Chicago university, has led this congregation since 1907

Interracial Relations In Jacksonville

(*Continued from page* 19)

having rendered a fine program, lunched together without discrimination or segregation. Good Will Ambassadors: this group organized by a prominent Baptist minister, was given the privilege of a weekly broadcast over WMBR and each Sunday afternoon for a long period of time, they sung and spoke good will, as representatives of the race. Religious Council of Women: this organization is composed of Jewish, Catholic, Protestant and colored women, and is a power behind the throne in cultivating peaceful race relations. Recently it assisted the Clara White Mission in securing a Detention Home for Colored Girls, and used its influence in abolishing places of vice and the driving out of the loan shark, both of which had been detrimental to the race, and a source of racial disturbances.

The Y.W.C.A. Interracial Committee has done much in the cultivation of better racial relationships and harmony. The boys of today will be the men of tomorrow, and what the future relations are to be depends upon the relationships of the present. Coming from the chief leader of Boy Scouts of our group, it is reported that the relationships among council members, troops, are most cordial. The boys are most friendly in their contact and attitude, and members exchange visits upon special occasions. Other agencies are the Jacksonville branch, N.A.A.C.P., the Business League, the Negro Chamber of Commerce, educational and club groups. Knowing that one cannot accurately gauge relations in a city of 200,000 population with 80,000 of that number colored, the writer interviewed for opinions the following: minister, insurance leaders, lawyer, physician, laborer, Scout leader, Mission worker, contractor, store porter, letter carrier, pullman porter, realtor, retired mail clerk, mortician, library messenger, elevator operator. Each gave it as his or her opinion that the racial relationships are very good and a decided improvement over the past. There was only one exception.



Wilder Park Library for Negroes, Jacksonville, Fla. Insert: Mrs. Olga Owens Bradham, librarian for 14 years. A graduate of Wilberforce Univ. and Florida A. and M. college, she has studied library science at Columbia university

Two of many instances are given herewith. The Bethel Baptist Institutional Church, in a recent Centennial celebration, arranged for an interracial night, with the writer as chairman. The response of white friends was gratifying. They attended in large numbers, and took leading parts on the program and fellowshipped together without discrimination. The Florida *Times-Union*, a daily, in an editorial commended the church for the part it had played through the years in cultivating racial understanding and peace.

The white and colored letter carriers are members of the same association, with mixed officers; the president is colored. In electing delegates to the National Letter Carriers Association two whites and three colored were sent. At one time the whites did not affiliate. In elevators of all public buildings there is no separation; in department stores, shoes and clothes may be tried on by all races, and cheerful assistance given.

There is no curfew nor restrictions on the movements of our racial group; they go and come at any time and place. At the Terminal Station the midway or concourse is used by thousands in promenading and going to and fro to trains, without friction. On the streets, in stores, in elevators they elbow and jostle each other with tolerance. Police brutality is not practiced nor tolerated, although there are reports of such occurrences, but when complaints are made to authorities investigations are promptly made. We do not contend that there is a perfect relationship, for southern traditions are not easily overcome, sentiment is king and many are subjects, but in the words of the late James Weldon Johnson, "We march on till victory is won."

NEXT MONTH

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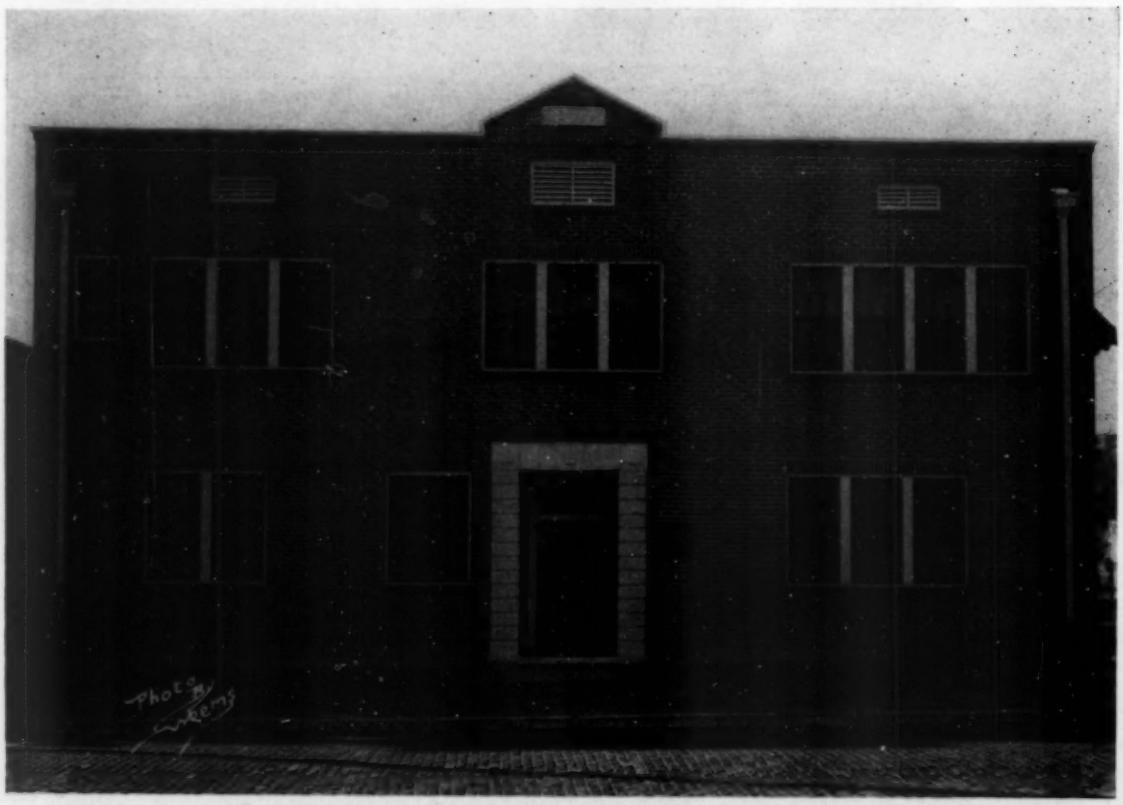
A section of the Law Library of McGill and McGill of Jacksonville. This library, which is said to be one of the most complete in the state, contains over two thousand books. Standing, right, S. D. McGill and his assistants, Attorney William S. Robinson, Releford McGriff and Mrs. Mercedes Hart Whitfield, secretary to Attorney McGill for the past ten years



Offices and residence of Dr. I. E. Williams, 102 E. Union St., Jacksonville, Fla.

Negro Health in Jacksonville

By C. Frederick Duncan, M.D.

HEALTH, the normal condition of body and mind with all the parts functioning normally, is the most desirable state of all human beings. Such a worthy attainment this is, that human society has organized to make this state of normalcy possible in every community. Thus there are central, state, and municipal laws in operation to safeguard the health of every individual within their respective control. If this axiom of governmental responsibility were impartial, in that the practical operation was made imperative without circumscription and discrimination to all groups, races, and complexions, there would be no cause for complaint. It is regrettable, however, that the health of the Negro in the city of Jacksonville is hazarded by three main factors: politics, economic conditions, and ignorance.

The latter may well be classified as the central point from which the other two radiate. State vital statistics harp upon the proneness to disease and numerical surplus of Negro mortality in comparison to that of whites. Yet the state politics through individuals who are armed with state authority mercilessly and consistently relegate the Negro into a situation of impotence in denying him the practical means of protection by disfranchising him. The municipality steals from him his right to go to the polls to vote, thus denying him a voice in the formation of laws which concern him. Therefore we have the segregated Negro districts and Negro ghettos, the former characterized by poorly laid out, unpaved, sandrutted, and non-lighted streets; inadequate and poor sanitary conditions; lack of properly arranged playgrounds and swimming pools; lanes that are physical and moral hazards. Moreover, almost all the Gehennas of the city of Jacksonville are in the Negro sections of the community. With such state and municipal settings, is it to be wondered at that Negroes are more exposed to contagious and infectious diseases than are the non-Negro groups?

The Negro ghettos, thanks to the Roosevelt administration, are disappearing and their places taken by Federal Housing accommodations. Yes, before the advent of these Federal Housing projects, these ghettos had been the putrid, yea, the gangrenous, the cancer-

(*Continued on page 32*)

OUR NEGRO SOLDIERS

Pictures From All Camps

EXCLUSIVE FEATURE

FEBRUARY ISSUE

THE CRISIS

69 FIFTH AVENUE

NEW YORK, N. Y.

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THE CLARA WHITE MISSION

For a quarter century the Clara White Mission, 611 W. Ashley St., has cared for Jacksonville's needy, aged and orphaned; distributed food, sponsored tuberculosis prevention, housed and guided WPA sewing, writing and art projects, and instructed the blind. In addition to food, clothing, shoes, shelter and employment are given. Annual outings are given the blind, poor, orphaned and aged; a boys' and girls' improvement club is operated, and a drum and bugle corps maintained. The mission, named after Clara White, a pioneer citizen, and headed by her daughter, Miss Eartha M. M. White, is supported by the contributions of white and colored citizens. The above photograph shows one of the many activities of the Clara White Mission

The Junior Service League of Jacksonville, Fla., a charitable organization aiding underprivileged children for the past eight years. 1st row: Mrs. Mildred Christopher; Miss Gwendolyn Holland, treasurer; Miss Edythe Boyd, corr. sec'y; Mrs. Florence J. Dixon, president; Mrs. Almira Wilson, ass't sec'y; Miss Alethia B. Frazier, vice-pres.; Mrs. Mamie H. Butler; Mrs. Altamease Young. 2nd row: Mrs. Irene James, Mrs. Wilhelmina J. Rutledge, Mrs. Louise S. Brown, Mrs. Ethel M. Powell, Mrs. Thelma H. Livingston, Mrs. Thelma L. Harris, Mrs. Eloise W. Green, Mrs. Lucile G. Coleman, Mrs. Annie S. Currie. 3rd row: Mrs. Nellie Lewis, Mrs. Harriet Graham, Miss Rebecca Lundy, Mrs. Meltonia J. Brooks, Mrs. Catherine Jackson and Mrs. Luther W. James

Members of Chi chapter, Iota Phi Lambda sorority, 315 Broad St., Jacksonville, are business and professional women. Organized in 1936 and has had four various presidents. In the first row, left to right, are: Sorors Irene Alexander, Alethia B. Frazier, president, and Edith C. Boyd. Second row: Annie Haley-Robinson, Kathryn Hawkins-Blanchard, Eartha M. White and Margaret G. Simms. Back row: Nettye J. Leapheart, Inez D. Walton and Julia S. Brown. Not shown Robie Epps-Bryant, Mabel Ervin-Latson, and Ellen M. Wilson

Jacksonville Business

(*Continued from page* 10)

consideration prove a benefit to the race from all angles, or will it be detrimental in at least some respects? To be sure, there should be places of amusement operated commercially, as well as public recreation centers; but such places should not be out of proportion to the number of establishments and volume of business devoted to staple lines. Dr. William L. Redmond, a local dentist, who is also a member of the executive committee of the Local Negro Business League, warned that body recently of the danger confronting Negroes when members of the race, for purely selfish purposes, entered into certain types of business which are designed to drain the Negroes' purses but are destined never to lift the race one iota, either economically or morally. He pointed out further that in many instances such types of business are really financed by members of other races, with Negro operators simply supplying a "front". In such cases most if not all the profits pass right through the fingers of the supposed owners (?) and eventually swell the earnings of investors beyond the reach of race control or genuine race interest.

Facing the situation whose various aspects have been discussed in the foregoing paragraphs, the Negro Business League of Jacksonville seeks to serve as a local clearing house for the numerous enterprises in operation by members of the race. The organization encourages members of the race to engage in all types of legitimate business for themselves. On the other hand, it urges consumers within the race to trade with Negro business establishments as much as possible. The League also advocates perfect cooperation among business men of the race in every field. The League specifically promotes cooperation among retail merchants to enable them to face the competition of chain stores. Regardless of the type of business, the League advocates honesty, efficiency and attractiveness. Ministers are persuaded to urge upon their congregations a finer race consciousness, manifested by a fuller patronage of business enterprises within the race, ever holding before them the indisputable fact, "No race—ever received national—recognition until it had forged ahead in business and commerce." "Economic freedom should be the goal of every Negro in America," and that certainly includes Jacksonville and Duval county.

Craddock Enterprises

(*Continued from page* 14)

Mason. Born 12 miles out of Eufaula, Ala., in Barber County, he left home at sixteen years of age and traveled extensively. During the World War he served fourteen months in the infantry. In 1940 he married Arvella Singleton of Jacksonville, Fla., his second marriage.

Manuel's Tap Room, Lounge and Grill, 622-26 West Ashley St., Jacksonville, Fla., Manuel Rivera, proprietor. Newly opened, it is the most exclusive place of its kind in Jacksonville for drinking, dining and dancing. Open 24 hours a day

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Negro Health

(*Continued from page 29*)

ous centres of infection, depravity, vice, and all other deplorable units entering the undermining of human health, and most vicious evidences of municipal criminality. Please pardon me if I decline to comment on some of the death traps, unhygienic and cramped excuses that the state and county call school houses for Negro children.

Yes, there are a few state and municipal clinics: the majority are for indigent white groups, yet those of the indigent Negro group whose economic conditions beg for a few crumbs are left without a dental clinic, and the niggardly amount spent for the so-called relief of Negro indigents is so manipulated that Negro physicians are not deemed eligible to serve the indigent members of their group. In this particular matter there is methodical and organized cajolery.

Education must play an important part toward the well-being of all groups. Cursed by the institution of slavery, the teachings of which have passed into the system and contaminated him mentally and spiritually, the average Negro does not know himself. The state authorities premeditatedly have so directed his education with a view to their contemplative purposes—to keep him in perpetual ignorance, and there lingers in the Negro's system the baneful trust between the slave and his master. Thus he must not think for himself and whatever his Negro antitype instructs him for his welfare must first receive the assent of a white boss; too, we have a situation wherein a well trained and qualified oculist of fame advised a woman of his race to have a certain work done to her eye. She chose to accept the instructions and advice of a white blacksmith and lost her eye. There are parallel conditions as to the Negro's choice of a physician.

It is refreshing to note, however, that there is a seeming renaissance in the Negro's confidence in the health advisers of his own group.

The Defense program has given us a noteworthy opportunity to compare the health of our group with that of the other group. Yes, there are deplorable discoveries in the health conditions of the young manhood of our group; there are diseases — contagions, infections, lung affections, heart and kidney involvements. The satisfaction rests in the thought that with general improvement along all lines within the Negro himself, his awakening racial selfconsciousness, the situation is hopeful. There are more and better babies of the right type with worthy parental transmissions. The Federal projects have eliminated the septic Negro ghettos. When the city fathers eliminate Gehennas from the Negro sections, and with amelioration in politics, better Negro economic conditions and improved education, better health situations among the Negroes will be an accomplished fact in the city of Jacksonville.

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LEGAL DIRECTORY

Responding to frequent inquiries. THE CRISIS carries herewith the names and addresses with telephone numbers of some of the 1300 colored attorneys in the United States, purely as a service to those seeking such information. THE CRISIS does not maintain a legal bureau, as many readers seem to think, and the N.A.A.C.P. concerns itself only with cases involving color discrimination, segregation or denial of citizenship rights. Lawyers whose names do not appear below are requested to write to THE CRISIS.

ARKANSAS

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201 Century Building, Little Rock, Ark.
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Negro Youth Looks at Jacksonville

By Harold Martin

President, N.A.A.C.P. Youth Council

I, A Negro Youth, have lived, almost my entire life to-date in the city of Jacksonville, Florida. In this period of time I have frequently had opportunity to gaze at it objectively and from a distance; viewing its skyline and sprawling square acreage impersonally, as would a stranger or tourist, seeing it for the first time; once from the air, many times from bridges and outflung highways.

And seeing it thus, never have I failed to experience delight in its charming disregard of geometrical precision, or to be impressed by its growing skyline, or in passing through its parks and certain residential areas, to be delighted by its pleasing, distinctive styles of architecture, harmonizing with the natural beauty that is Florida's and America's.

Momentarily, I am filled with a sense of great pride. The fact is that the communities of men like this city of Jacksonville, go to make up America. I am an American. I am a citizen of Jacksonville.

But only momentarily do I have this sense of pride. As suddenly as was its advent, it as suddenly departs, leaving an awareness which is never far from my consciousness, and I begin remembering, remembering what this city seeks never to allow me to forget. I am a Negro and as such am to be kept in my place, my place meaning limited, very limited privileges, opportunities and civil rights, the sharp point of prejudice and injustice.

For, having lived in this city many years, and having had numerous occasions to be impressed with its beauty and importance, I have had as many and far many more occasions to reflect upon it, not as seen from afar, but as I actually find it from day to day.

I gaze at the impressive skyline of its business and commercial districts and I remember how small is the part I am allowed to play there. In none of its tall office buildings will I find stenographers, clerks, secretaries and business men of my race. In none of its large and completely modern stores do I find Negro sales-girls and salesmen, or department heads or managers. I think of its fine restaurants, theaters, where I would be forcibly ejected should I offer my patronage. I think of the many establishments of the arts, crafts, and skills which deny me apprenticeship; I think of its factories where I may hold only the most menial position. I look at its schools, and remembering how pitifully small numerically are those I might attend, how wretched and insufficient the capacity for the need.

I survey its many pleasant, beautiful and wholesome residential districts, but I cannot really see them for the squalor, delapidation of slum areas through which I must pass to reach them.

I tread the corridors of the City Hall, Armory, and other public buildings, but find no dark-skinned public officeholders. I scan the columns of its daily newspapers, but only find items which reflect disgrace upon my group and which seek to further discredit it, finding nothing of its achievements.

I observe the lack of recreational facilities; swimming pools bowling alleys, tennis courts, athletic fields or stadium, and I remember friends or acquaintances whose lives were lost through swimming in dangerous and unprotected waters; I think of the appalling numbers of Negro Youths in the various city, county and State crime-punishing institutions. I think of all those and more. Is it any wonder that my sense of pride is so fleeting?

It is when I have reached this point in my reflections that I find it necessary to secure a firm grip upon my reeling senses. I remember the amazing progress, comparable with that of no other group or race which the Negro has achieved in less than one century of freedom. I remember the great colored citizens, both living and dead which Jacksonville has produced. I remember and I am inspired. I recall the immortal message of the Negro National Anthem, product of a Jacksonville Negro Youth.

Looking at Jacksonville with the eyes of Negro Youth, I see only a vast darkness, illuminated here and there, solely by the lights of a few struggling Negro Youths now grown old, yet, still endeavoring to create a more enlightened vista.

The Professions

By D. W. Perkins, LL.D.

Medicine

The medical profession affords excellent opportunity for real conscientious and efficient work.

Jacksonville boasts of Fifteen (15) physicians and surgeons all of whom are graduates of leading medical institutions and several of them having done post graduate work in some of the leading institutions in this country and in Europe. Some have done interne work in celebrated hospitals in America and across the seas.

The physicians and surgeons are listed as follows, viz: D. H. Brown, S. S. Campbell, S. B. Daniel, C. F. Duncan, E. H. Flipper, H. W. James, R. F. Mills, O. W. McIntosh, J. P. Paterson, W. W. Schell, A. W. Smith, C. M. Thompson, C. A. Ward, E. H. Washington, and I. E. Williams.

Dentists

Six (6) dentists are here and doing outstanding work. They have the most modern offices and the best equipments. Some of them have studied and done internship in the best Dental Colleges.

The dentists are as follows, viz: J. D. Bonner, J. E. Bush, L. C. Ervin, C. V. Freeman, W. L. Redmond, and G. F. Waters.

Dental Hygienist

Mrs. Mabel Ervin Latson, Dental Hygienist.

Pharmacists

Six (6) pharmacists are among the most efficient in the country—they hale from the best pharmaceutical Colleges. The Pharmacists are as follows, viz: R. W. Butler, T. C. Christopher, R. E. Smith, and W. C. Parrish.

(*Continued on page* 38)

MIAMI
A PICTORIAL ESSAY
MARCH NUMBER
THE CRISIS

Jacksonville Society

By Eleanor Jackson Maultsby

JACKSONVILLE has tripled in size during the past 20 years. For the accommodation of her increasing population, heavy expenditures have been made for street building, sewers, modernized police and fire departments, recreation centers, radio services, educational setups, health services and other items incidental to a city's growth and development.

Jacksonville's society has grown with Jacksonville. It is more liberal today than it was 20 years ago. Society here has one of the finest, most friendly mixtures of young and middle-aged people of any city in the state. Freely they mingle and enjoy themselves together at the various exclusive social functions during the season.

Playing an important part in the social life of this city, one which has done much in cementing the various groups together, has been the church. It is not uncommon during this day and time to see churches endorsing various types of social events for the enjoyment of their young and adult members. Some churches sanction dancing and others do not, but those who do not are not pulling the lid down as hard on the pot as they did in other years. Church leaders are finding out that there must be an outlet for their parishioners, and are providing recreation and social activity programs for them. This is one of the most remarkable changes during the past decade.

Fortunately or unfortunately, Jacksonville has more than 150 clubs . . . which classify themselves as social clubs. They are divided into four groups.

Approximately 20 to 25 of these may be called exclusive clubs. Exclusive because they are organized for the purpose of staging one large social affair during the year with the privilege of selecting its own guests to enjoy the affair wit' them. Undesirables are refused invitations. Dance affairs for this group usually come in the Fall and Winter, and particularly during the Christmas and New Year's holiday seasons.

Some of these clubs in addition to their annual dance affairs, such as sports attire, costume, formal and other type affairs, stage outings, picnics, beach parties, banquets, bazaars, fashion shows, golf and other sports tournaments for the enjoyment of their wives, husbands, sweethearts and selected guests. These affairs are spaced over a 12-month period. There is still a great need here, however, for an Inter-Club Council, an organization which can do much in working out a calendar of events satisfactory to all, that the affairs may not be too closely bunched. Fraternities and sororities of the city have formed a similar organization known as the Pan-Hellenic Council to do the work of coordination for these groups and organizing an event slate for the year. Already a splendid work has been done. Efforts are underway now to form the Inter-Club Council here by leaders of some of the clubs.

MISS MARY E. LITTLEJOHN
Third in balloting for "Miss Jacksonville" with 307 votes.

Another club group is that which meets once and twice a month for closed social periods or for small dance and other social affairs in places other than large dance halls and clubs. These clubs concentrate on small groups, pay in dues to take care of the expenses of presenting these affairs, and sometimes assess themselves small amounts. They never venture into functions which entail the expenditure of funds totaling a hundred or more dollars. Clubs in this group are also among the first to reach down into their treasury and make liberal contributions to the Community Chest, the Red Cross, the Tuberculosis Seal Sales campaigns, and for other charitable and welfare projects. As a unit this group contributes much more than the clubs which classify themselves as exclusive.

Further, they go into various churches with literary programs during the various young people's meetings and sometimes during the regular worship. They are rendering a quiet, but outstanding service to their city, and one which is far reaching in effect.

Club group No. 3 as we may call it, is that group which is doing two-fold service. These clubs are organized in churches, but their work is not confined to religious programs. Home affairs of a social nature are held in various homes of the members. Cakes, soft drinks and other dainties are sold and proceeds benefit certain funds to help carry on the work in the church. Dancing and card playing are seldom indulged in in these entertainments. Of course, certain of the churches of the city, like in other large cities, stage bazaars, dances and card parties, but under their discipline they have that right.

Clubs in group No. 3 also stage outdoor events at the beaches and other resorts during the summer season and are also assets to the communities in which they work. Hundreds of dollars each year, raised through their various social entertainments, benefit the various churches with which they are identified.

Club group No. 4 may be called the clubs which give pay dances. They present affairs in homes, small halls, and at some of the clubs. They make contributions to charity at intervals, and at the end of the year they divide the spoils among themselves. Some of these clubs stage various kinds of dances for the younger element, and some of them profit from large purses, from which they willingly each year donate large sums to charity. These clubs have their assets as well as the others and are doing their bit in contributing to the continued growth and development of the social life of Jacksonville. Extraordinary good is done through this club group. Also, some of these type clubs have Christmas Clubs formed in banks of the city and each Yuletide season checks in full are drawn, profits from their pay affairs, and divided among the membership equally.

Society in Jacksonville continues on the upgrade. It will go higher when all of these groups see the need of the Inter-club Council and form one here for the coordination of their programs over the 12 month period.

SEE THE CRISIS NEXT MONTH
THE NEGRO IN THE U. S. ARMY

Free and Accepted Masons of Florida

DAVID D. POWELL
Grand Master

THE Most Worshipful Union Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of Florida was established seventy-two years ago in Jacksonville, Florida. In its seventy-two years of existence, the Grand Lodge has had seven Grand Masters, including the present and incumbent Most Worshipful Grand Master, Hon. David D. Powell, 33rd Degree.

Under his energetic and capable leadership, the peace and prosperity of this histrionic Order have advanced rapidly; he has made Masonry the most powerful force working for the common good of mankind. After twenty-six years of continuous service to this successful organization, Grand Master Powell is still active in the uplift of the Order, in an effort to help it attain greater and greater heights. The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge was the first organization established for colored people in the state of Florida, and has held its place as the first and leading organization of our group until today. It was the first organization to establish an Endowment department to care for the widows and orphans of deceased members of the several subordinate lodges working under the protection of the Grand Lodge in Florida. It was the first organization that bought and built a Temple for the Grand Lodge in Florida. It is today the wealthiest institution known among our group in the state.

The first Grand Master of this honorable institution was Most Worshipful Harry H. Thompson, who served from 1870 to 1872; he was succeeded by Most Worshipful John R. Scott, Sr., who served from 1872 to 1880. Mr. Scott died as Grand Master of this order. His unexpired term was carried out by the Rev. Abraham Grant who was Deputy Grand Master. He was later made bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. In 1880, Most Worshipful Tillman Valentine was elected Grand Master, and served until 1888, when Reuben S. Mitchell was elected Grand Master and served until 1890. In 1890 Dr. Harrison Samuel Coleman was elected Grand Master, and served until the latter part of 1899, when he lost his life in a wreck. John H. Dickerson, Deputy Grand Master, was elected Grand Master in 1899, and served until 1916, when, in August, David Daniel Powell, was elected as Grand Master. He is the only elected Grand Master living.

The Masonic Temple at Broad and Duval Streets was built under the administration of Grand Master John H. Dickerson, and paid for during the administration of Grand Master D. D. Powell. The building, a five story, fireproof brick structure, containing all modern facilities throughout, is valued at $500,000, and is out of debt except for a few taxes. The Temple was begun in 1912 and completed in 1913. It is rated among the leading buildings of the South among either race.

The Masonic Temple, Broad and Duval Streets, Jacksonville

Along the N.A.A.C.P. Battlefront

Fight For Liberties Here While Fighting Dictators Abroad, NAACP Urges

Immediately after the declaration of war, following the attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, the NAACP issued a statement to the country calling for a continued fight for civil liberties in America while the war goes on against dictatorship abroad. The statement, in part signed by Walter White, executive secretary:

"Memories of all Negroes except those of the very young are bitter-green regarding the last World War. We were taken up to a mountain-top and promised that if we gave without stint of our lives and resources we would enjoy after the war democracy in full measure. Instead of that, some of our soldiers were lynched for wearing the uniform which they had worn in France fighting to preserve democracy. The Ku Klux Klan was revived.

"In this moment of hysteria and peril, therefore, I urge Negroes to . . . remember that the declarations of war do not lessen the obligation to preserve and extend civil liberties here while the fight is being made to restore freedom from dictatorship abroad . . .

"At the same time we must keep clear in our minds certain differences between this and the last war. All Americans, and particularly Negro Americans, have passed through a period of cynicism regarding the causes and results of World War I. Much of that cynicism was and is justified . . .

"We Negroes are faced with a Hobson's choice. But there *is* a choice. If Hitler wins, every single right we now possess and for which we have struggled here in America for more than three centuries will be instantaneously wiped out by Hitler triumphs. If the allies win, we shall at least have the right to continue fighting for a share of democracy for ourselves."

Employment

Carpenters. Nineteen Negro carpenters were employed on the construction of a bomber plant in Tulsa, Oklahoma, in November after a campaign in their behalf by the Tulsa branch of the NAACP. The men are receiving $1.25 an hour. In addition to this victory, the Tulsa branch announces that the Spartan Aircraft Company located in Tulsa has agreed to employ Negroes in its plant. Moreover the branch has succeeded in opening defense training classes to Negroes.

Stage-hands. Negro union stage hands were refused traveling cards by the National Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees, thus preventing them from accompanying the Negro unit of Camp Shows Inc., which is furnishing entertainment to soldiers in army camps.

Aviation. When the Curtiss Wright Company employed a Negro in its tool and die shop at the Columbus, Ohio, plant, some 200 white workers used the action as an excuse for a strike which lasted two days. The CIO union said the strike was not authorized and that other grievances were involved. The CIO organizer in that territory who had made anti-Negro statements to the daily press was quickly transferred to another area when top CIO-UAW officials from Detroit took charge of the situation. Not only did the Negro die worker stay on the job, but the company agreed to employ some Negro clerical workers.

Navy Unchanged

The Japanese attack on the American fleet at Pearl Harbor December 7 has not changed the policy of the Navy, the Bureau of Navigation informed the N.A.A.C.P. Negroes will be accepted only as mess attendants.

Later, official dispatches from Pearl Harbor told how a Negro mess attendant on the Arizona manned an anti-aircraft machine gun against attacking Japanese dive bombers until his ammunition was exhausted.

Army Stands Pat On Segregation Policy

At a conference of Negro editors with heads of the War department December 8 and 9 in Washington, the department seemed to be greatly concerned with Negro morale and anxious that Negro editors understand the work of Army; but the department stood pat on its basic policy of the segregation of Negro and white troops into their own units. The re-statement of this policy by Col. E. R. Householder, of the Adjutant General's office, brought forth sharp criticism of the segregated set-up by Claude Barnett, of the Associated Negro Press; A. C. MacNeal, executive editor of the Chicago *Defender;* Ollie Stewart, special correspondent of the Baltimore *Afro-American,* who has toured twenty-six Army camps; and Roy Wilkins, editor of *The Crisis.*

Branch News

Alabama: J. L. LeFlore, chairman of the Southern Conference of branches and secretary of the Mobile branch, has announced that investigation of the rape charge against Curtis Robinson and Henry Daniels has been made and it is not believed that the boys are guilty. Efforts are being made to raise $1,000 for defense purposes.

Colorado: Mrs. Yolanda Williams reports that the December 7 meeting of the Pueblo branch was conducted by A. J. Madison at the Scott Chapel Methodist church. Dean William Pickens was scheduled to speak on December 19. A mass meeting for youth between 16 and 25 years was held in December. Rev. J. E. Foster, pastor of St. John A.M.E. church was the principal speaker. Ed Williams is the sponsor of the group. Mrs. Beulah Baker is the program chairman of the branch.

District of Columbia: Willard S. Townsend, International President of the United Transport Service Employees of America, spoke on the District of Columbia branch radio program over WINX on December 7. Mr. Townsend was in Washington in connection with the Senatorial hearing regarding wages, hours and working conditions of the Red Caps, and his address gave the historical background of the organization of this group of workers and their current employment problems. Roy Wilkins, assistant secretary of the NAACP and Editor of The Crisis spoke on the radio program on December 28, giving a summary of the year's events and commenting on the position of the NAACP in the present day situation. It is to be noted that the time of the Sunday broadcasts of the D. C. branch on WINX is 7:45 P.M.

The D. C. branch reports that it was instrumental in securing the conviction of a white man who killed a Negro in Bowling Green, Va., in March, 1941. Oliver W. Hill, an NAACP attorney in Richmond, handled the case.

Committee chairmen for the D. C. branch are recorded as follows: Dr. C. Herbert Marshall, Jr., chairman of the executive committee; Mrs. Ruby Hawkins, membership; W. Robert Ming, Jr., finance; Mrs. Gertrude B. Stone, press and publicity; William H. Hastie, sub-committee on radio; Dr. Leon A. Ransom, legal redress and legislation; and U. S. Tate and Dutton Ferguson, labor and industry. Dr. John Lovell, Jr. is chairman of the education committee, and George E. Brice and James N. Ward are co-chairman of the entertainment committee. The executive committee has accepted as a member, Andrew Morris, recently elected president of the youth council.

New York: The white fireman who abducted and assaulted a young colored girl of Cedar Manor, was sentenced to from 2

As a result of the Wilmington, Del., campaign the following members were made PANCAS (those securing number of new memberships above quota set by the branch): seated, left to right, Mrs. Rosa Peaco, Pauline A. Young, Mahala Turner, Anna F. Brodnax, Mrs. Elizabeth D. Banton, Mrs. Mollie Fleming, Gertrude J. Henry, Isaac Thornton, Mrs. Eva Jones, Mrs. Daisy Simms, Arthur W. Reed, Jr., Mrs. Lucy Rice. Standing, Rev. Seymour H. Barker, president, Dr. James Peaco, Mrs. Bessie Peterson, Sylvester Ryan, Mrs. Isabel Hurtt, Mrs. Jean S. Jamison, secretary, Patrick J. Harris, Gladys White, Mrs. Marguerite Reed, Dr. Ruth A. Cook, Mrs. Gertrude Thornton, Mrs. Anna Comegys, Mrs. Thelma Young, Mrs. Elsie Fleming, vice-president, Mrs. Ada Anderson, Caroline B. Williams, Mrs. Lolita Williams, Luther J. Porter and Vivian Jenkins

to 4 years in the Penitentiary on an abduction charge, largely through the efforts of the Jamaica branch, whose participation began only after the fireman had been permitted to plead guilty to the lesser charge, because of the desire of the parents to avoid publicity.

The annual membership campaign of the Jamaica branch was held in high gear under the chairmanship of Benjamin Vaughn. A mass meeting featuring Hon. Crystal Bird Faucett, special assistant to the Director of Civilian Defense on December 12 was one of the rallying points of the campaign. Mrs. Harriet Tanner Ellis' Negro History Committee provided a very interesting and entertaining program on November 23. Attorney Ruth Whitehead Whaley as the guest speaker. The Annual meeting of the branch was held at Allen church on December 15.

President David B. Adams, of Hempstead, and the entire staff of officers of the Nassau County branch have been re-elected. Other officers are Benjamin Lowry, vice-president; Alverta Gray, secretary; and Frederick Richards, treasurer.

Missouri: Mrs. Georgine Morris, president of the Des Moines, Iowa, branch, and of the Iowa State Conference of Branches, led the panel discussion on "Race Cooperation for Democracy" held at the Second Baptist church on November 30 under the auspices of the women's auxiliary of the Kansas City branch. Among the participants in the program were Mrs. John Taylor, USO representative; Mrs. Leona Pouncey, Negro churches, Elsie Mountain, executive secretary, YWCA; Mrs. Rosetta Gibson, Federated clubs; Mrs. Sallie Dibble, fraternal organizations; Mrs. Nannette Bruce and Mrs. L. B. Pryor, American Legion Auxiliary; Mrs. Marie Woods public school teachers; Miss Ozell Bryant, youth council; Mrs. Edmonia Brown, guest singer, Mrs. Morris, and Mrs. Goldie Elliot, retiring president of the Ladies Auxiliary.

The Saline County branch reports that it has 89 members and is working hard for more. Frank D. Brown is president of the group.

Texas: The San Antonio branch is the first branch in Texas to raise its quota for the Texas Democratic Primary Fight. The branches are to raise $8,000 to fight this case in the supreme court, and San Antonio was assessed $1,000. The closing of the drive was celebrated with a dinner, with President O. E. Fitzgerald and Dr. C. A. Whittier, chairman of the executive board, as hosts.

Virginia: The Virginia State Conference of branches was held in November. The Saturday, Nov. 8, meeting was held at the auditorium of the Southern Aid building. The participants were John A. Hall, Jr., assistant secretary of Southern Aid Society, Melvin O. Alston, president of the conference, Dr. J. M. Tinsley, and Wiley A. Hall. On Saturday evening, speakers were Lillie M. Jackson, president of the Maryland branch, and Dr. Luther Porter Jackson, of Virginia State college. The closing session was on Sunday with Dr. S. F. Coppage of Norfolk, presiding. Addresses were given by Walter White, executive secretary, and Dr. W. L. Ransome, pastor of the First Baptist church of South Richmond. Music was furnished by the Choral club of the Virginia Union university with Mrs. Aldena Davis as director.

Mr. Bossie B. Simmons and the Rev. S. F. Green were delegates representing the Hopewell branch at the conference.

Wyoming: The Cheyenne branch reports that U. S. O. director F. A. Gibson and Sergeant Buell of Co. A, 4th Regiment, cooperated with the branch in selling the NAACP Chrismas seals.

Youth Council News

Tampa, Fla.: The following new members were reported: Harold Johnson, James Johnson, Pauline Williams, Essie Gregory, Eddie Butler and Frank Allen. The group has applied for a formal charter of the Association. E. Norman Lacey is the advisor of the group.

Jacksonville, Fla.: As a result of a recent "Youth Night" program sponsored by the Jacksonville Youth Council, Edward Waters College here has set up an organization committee. Recent membership reports from the group include Clarence Mathis, Pauline Brown, Dorothy Wiggins, Evelyn Hunter, Ida Battles, Rebecca Straughter, Jennie Ellison, Berniece T. Groomes and Maceo Bustamonte.

Elizabeth, N. J.: Newly elected officers are: Joseph Ramey, president; Ishmond Jones, vice-president; Dorothy Foster, recording secretary; Charlotte Jones, corresponding secretary; and John Little, treasurer. The group has recently reorganized and twelve names have been added to the roster.

Institute, West Va.: At the close of its recent membership drive, the West Virginia State college chapter reported thirty-five new members.

Lake Charles, La.: An application for charter has been made by the Lake Charles youth council. Members and officers of this group include: Miss Lillian B. Carline, advisor; Hayward Gray, president; Mary L. Jenkins, secretary; Gladys Weasel, treasurer, and others. The group has reported seventy-one members to the national office.

Augusta, Ga.: Laura Schumake, secretary of the Paine College chapter, reports an increase in membership of fifty members.

Houston, Texas: Newly elected officers for 1942 of the Houston youth council are: Lark Jones, Jr., president; Alfred C. Simmons, first vice-president; St. Clair Stubbs, second vice-president; Hazel B. McCullough, secretary; and Esther B. Shannon, assistant secretary. Margaret Misher is treasurer of the group.

Boston, Mass.: The following persons have been elected officers for the coming year: M. Phyllis Mitchell, president; Mary Jumper, vice-president; Julia E. Mitchell, secretary; Herbert Reed, treasurer; and Claudia Hardrick, financial secretary.

Norristown, Penna.: A youth council has recently been organized. Officers of the group include Charlotte Moore, president; Julius Davenporte, vice-president; Edith Culbreath, recording secretary; Irene Corley, corresponding secretary and Willie McClennon, treasurer. The group has applied for a charter.

Recreation Work

By Florida C. Dwight

FROM a tiny movement on July 1st, 1918, recreation work here has grown into a race building, and health building movement of large proportions.

Touching upon beginning, physical plant, activities, administration, workers' assistants, the tennis tournaments, and the various other celebrations and observances, I shall briefly tell you the story of the recreation program among Negroes in Jacksonville.

I was teaching in Cookman Institute, then situated in this city. I had trained a girls' basketball team when Miss Eartha M. M. White, widely known social and welfare worker, asked that I see Dr. Haskel, director of physical education at the Y.W.C.A. and also head of the recreation program for the city, relative to recreation for Negroes in this city.

City officials in authority were planning to open a playground for the race here and needed a worker. I went to see Dr. Haskell. On July 1st, 1918, I received a letter from the city appointing me to the position of recreation and playground director. I went to work on July 4th, 1918. We began with a parade from Stanton High School to the Oakland playground where a fitting ceremony was held.

The Oakland playground had one outstanding asset, that of beautiful trees. There were cemeteries on two sides, a railroad crossing on another, and street car tracks on another. The enthusiasm on the part of children and patrons ran high. It did not take long to see the good that was being done in the community through recreation.

From 1918 to 1923 the various activity programs had about an average attendance of 50 children a day. The playground was open from 10 a.m. to 12 noon and from 2:30 to 6 p.m. during the summer months. In the winter the activities gradually spread to the various school participation in basketball and football. In order to work up interest and attendance it was necessary to canvass the neighborhood by house to house system informing parents and patrons of the value of supervised play for their young and what the playground meant to the community.

A large number of our outstanding men and women grew up on the Oakland playground. Crime and delinquency have decreased considerably due to the wholesome recreation programs here. I was playground director in Oakland for ten years, from 1918 to 1928, but because of the increased attendance and interest of all, the assistance of volunteer leaders was given. Two volunteer leaders were: John Rutledge and Preston Shrewsberry, who officiated at the baseball and football games.

Every public school became a part of the recreation plant, with Stanton high school as the center of a play area. LaVilla playground was secured for Negroes in 1929, after citizens campaigned to raise funds to equip it. Wilder Park was the real expansion. The land, thirty or more acres, had been given years before by a Mr. Wilder, prominent white citizen, to be used as a park for Negroes. This park is the largest in the system and accommodates several thousand persons at football games.

Wilder Park includes a gridiron, baseball diamond, cinder track, and a diamond ball field. In addition to this play park and the other three designated here, there are sand lots in use in various parts of the city. In the new housing project, Durkeeville, a modern up-to-date playground serves that community. The activities are many and varied. In summer there are held Street Showers, handicraft, baseball, doll shows, horse shoes, folk dancing, story telling, skating contests, bicycle contests, basketry, marionette shows, holiday celebrations, tennis tournaments, paddle tennis tourneys, boxing, institutes for training workers, lantern parades, knitting classes, and other events.

Most important among our many activities was an institute held in 1926 in Daytona Beach at the Bethune-Cookman College, held for the purpose of training workers and leaders. This was the beginning of the work there. Many institutes for the training of leaders have been held. At various times have come national leaders, among whom were Miss Ethel Bowers, Messrs. Charles Welles, George Johnson, and others. The NYA workers attracted about 85 persons, from which many recreational leaders were taken.

The LaVilla playground has four of the finest courts in the South and was host to the State Tennis tournament in 1930. Tennis players from all over this section, and Nassau, Bahama, participated. Thousands of spectators attended the matches. Another huge celebration was that for Joseph Lee, founder of the recreation movement, held in LaVilla park. This was a May festival, one of the outstanding and largest events.

The Board in charge of all recreational activities is appointed by the Mayor, and the supervisor receives his appointment from a Civil Service Board. From the very beginning, every board has been mindful and interested in the Negro work. The associations have been most pleasant, and equipment and supplies have been the same for Negro workers. They have access to the library and there is no discrimination or prejudice in recreation work.

The staff has increased from one worker to three. Emmett (Chip) Reed was appointed in 1931 as Supervisor in Oakland, and Miss Clotee Philyaw was appointed to Oakland in 1939 when Mr. Reed was shifted to Wilder Park. With the coming of the WPA, the NYA, additional workers have helped to carry out the large recreation program which includes all types of activities and draws thousands of spectators and participants each year.

The Professions

(*Continued from page* 33)

Law

Jacksonville has always been fortunate in the type of men representing the group in the law profession.

From earliest times the colored lawyer here was educated, polished, cultured and refined and had enough common sense to obtain and retain the confidence, respect and good will of the Bench, Bar, Officers and the public.

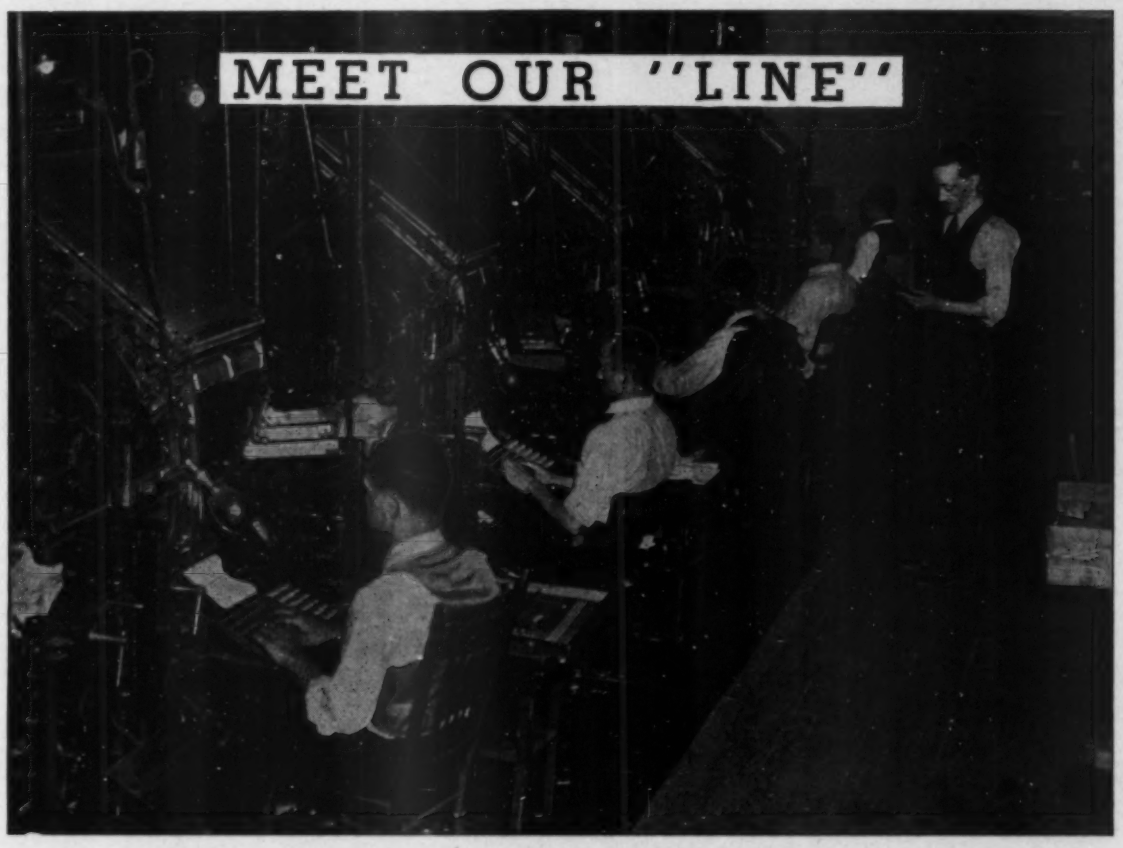
Graduated in the best law colleges of the country, they easily rank among the best in America whether judged from the standpoint of their winning laurels or accomplishing much to protect the constitutional rights of the Race.

Jacksonville has attained national recognition in the field of law, and it has been due very largely to the pioneer lawyers who braved destruction and death when they came into the City to practice their chosen profession, ere the smoke of battle had cleared away, just after the great civil conflict between the North and the South. Those former lawyers were so efficient and competent that the foundation which they laid was broad, strong and substantial and was capable of supporting a great superstructure of legal accomplishment and achievement.

The Jacksonville lawyers of the present day have found it necessary only to maintain the high record set by their predecessors and to build upon the reputation earned and merited by them, in order to win laurels, renown and distinction.

The lawyers are listed as follows, viz: J. Leonard Lewis, S. D. McGill, J. P. Muse, D. W. Perkins, R. R. Robinson, and Wm. S. Robinson.

All in all it may be said truthfully, but modestly that the members of our group in the professions in Jacksonville compare favorably with the members in the professions of the other group.



Average—ONE NEWSPAPER A DAY

IT is a heavy load getting out four complete newspapers in a four-day work week and the heaviest part falls on the "Line". The "Line" is the battery of Merganthaler Linotypes operated by 10 skilled Negro operators who represent the cream of the crop of linotype operators turned out by Hampton, Tuskegee, Prairie View and other Negro trade schools.

These men do a tremendous job and do it with skill and speed not surpassed in any other newspaper plant regardless of color.

In the four-day work week (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday) a 24-page, a 14-page, a 16-page and 28-page paper are set complete in every detail.

Defender mechanics have to be good because it is a tradition at The Defender that only the best will do.

THE Chicago Defender
WORLD'S GREATEST WEEKLY

A Stately Entrance With a Friendly Welcome

To Policyholders, Employees and Friends:

SOUTHERN AID SOCIETY OF VA., INC.

WISHES FOR ALL

A Happy and Prosperous New Year

The Company is pleased to announce that during 1941 it passed the ONE MILLION DOLLAR mark in Assets, and added more than $100,000 to its bond portfolio and, furthermore, through the splendid support of policyholders and the cooperation of its fieldmen, the Company's Income was substantially increased; thereby making it possible for this Company to extend its prompt and efficient insurance services to a much larger clientele.

The sound Assets and Reputation of this Forty Nine-Year-Old Servant of the race make certain the insurance security of all who intrust their premiums to it.

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